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MOM...GUESS WHAT!
NEWSPAPER

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December 1, 1990

Activists combat ROTC's anti-gay policy

by Brian Polejes
GUEST WRITER

"About Face: Combatting ROTC's Anti-Gay Policy" was a day-long conference sponsored by the ACLU Lesbian and Gay Rights Project at the University of Minnesota, Minneapolis, November 9. Over 160 campus activists from around the country attended, sharing strategy and hearing presentations from nationally prominent figures, including authors Randy Shilts and Allan Berube and Congressmember Gerry Studds, Democrat of Massachusetts.

"It is baseless, officially sanctioned discrimination that students and faculty will not abide on their campuses," Studds said. "Their cries of outrage are being heard by their senators and representatives as well as by the Pentagon."

"I believe the ROTC issue and the momentum created by this movement will be the catalyst for the eventual downfall of this archaic policy," Studds said.

According to the Department of Defense policy on homosexuality, Directive 1332.14, the presence of lesbians and gay men "adversely affects the ability of the Armed Forces to maintain discipline, good order, and morale; to foster mutual trust and confidence among service-members; to ensure the integrity of the system of rank and command."

"Homosexuality," the policy states, "is incompatible with military service."

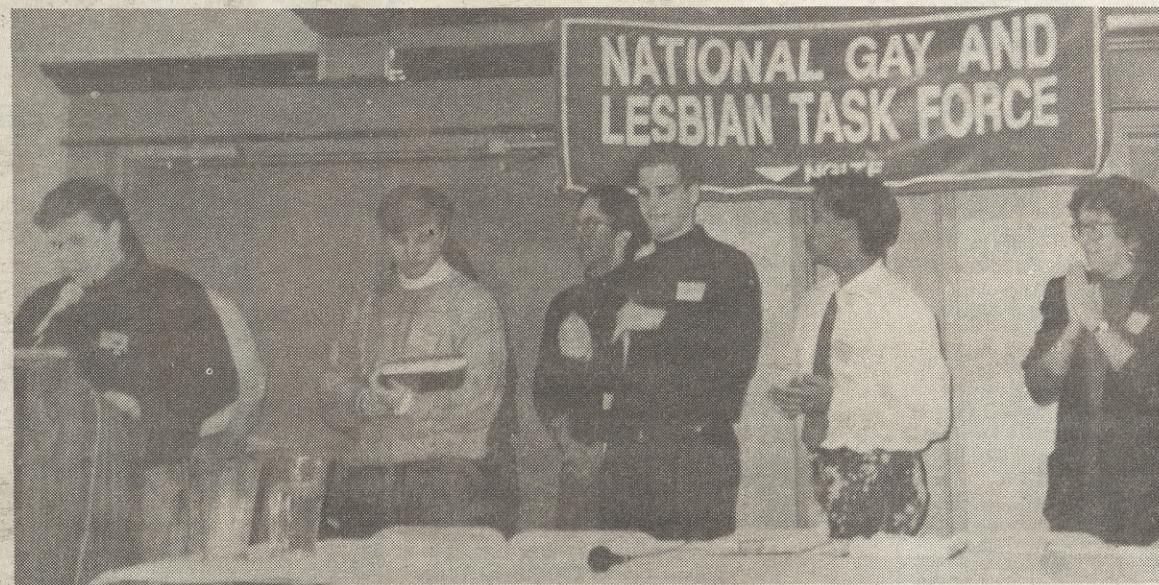
The policy is selectively enforced against lesbians and gay men, particularly against lesbians. "Since 1983, Defense Department statistics show, women have been discharged for homosexual conduct at a rate almost 10 times that of military men," according to the New York Times.

"We are born into this country citizens and there is no reason why we should not participate," said Lambda

Legal Defense attorney Sandra Lowe. "The military is the largest employer in the United States. Even if in the end we say no, this is a fight we cannot give up and a fight we cannot lose."

Much of the current activity to combat the military's anti-gay policy is focused on the Reserve Officers' Training Corps programs that exist on most university campuses. Most ROTC classes are technically open to all university students, but lesbians and gay men cannot be enlisted in ROTC and are not eligible for ROTC scholarships.

"All my hard work and service was wiped out the moment the military found out I was gay," said James Holobaugh, a 24-year-old who was a top cadet in Army ROTC at Washington University in St. Louis. "All I



Campus caucus of NGLTF at the Creating Change Conference. Photo by Brian Polejes

LET GAY & LESBIAN PEOPLE SERVE! ▽

Dear President Bush,

We urge you to sign an Executive Order to immediately rescind Department of Defense Directive 1332.14 which excludes lesbians and gay men from the U.S. Armed Forces. Let our people in!

17TH STREET, N.W., DC 20009 ▽ (202) 332-6463

Poster from NGLTF to petition President Bush. Photo by Brian Polejes

wanted to do was serve my country and be judged according to my ability. The moment they found out I was gay, that dream vanished."

"I want job choice and job freedom," said Miriam Ben-Shalom, former Army sergeant and leader of Gay Lesbian Bisexual Veterans of America. "ROTC is the source of 70 percent to 80 percent of military officers."

Urvashi Vaid, executive director of the National Gay Lesbian Task Force, announced a national petition drive to President Bush which reads, "We urge you to sign an Executive Order to immediately rescind Department of Defense Directive 1332.14 which excludes lesbians and gay men from the US Armed Forces. Let our people serve!" Vaid urged attendees to "build the grassroots to promote the kind of student movement that led to divestment."

"The most rewarding thing was seeing a campus come to consensus," said student Richard Villasenor of the University of Wisconsin.

"We won a student referendum and then got strong endorsement from the

undergraduate association, said MIT Professor David Halperin.

On May 17, the California State University, Sacramento Academic Senate set January 1, 1991 as the deadline to consider banning the ROTC from campus if it did not stop its discriminatory practices. The Department of Defense sent a letter to the Statewide California State University Academic Senate dated June 19, 1990 indicating they have no intention of changing their anti-gay policy.

CSUS Academic Senate Chair Juanita Barrena referred the issue to the Affirmative Action Committee for recommendation and indicated that the university may phase the ROTC off campus by not accepting any new cadets but allowing current cadets the chance to finish their training.

Those interested in assisting with the effort to combat ROTC's anti-gay policy at Sac State are urged to contact Lambda Students for Equality, Student Activities Box #342, CSUS University Union, 6000 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95819. ▽

Victory against Army tastes sweet to Watkins

by Dell Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Tacoma, Washington -- After nine years of battling against the U.S. Army, victory tastes especially sweet to gay sergeant Perry Watkins, 42.

"Nine or ten years is a long time but it's been worth it," said Watkins in a telephone interview. "I would do it again -- and I would do it exactly the same way."

On November 5, the U.S. Supreme Court refused to hear an appeal brought by the Department of Defense which would have kept the exemplary soldier out of the service.

The ruling from the conservatively-based court was a surprise to Watkins.

"Considering how conservative this court is -- and being black and gay and fighting the government -- I had three strikes against me.

"But it shows how far off-base the government is with their argument and how blatantly wrong they are."

Watkins had vowed to fight till the end, even though he didn't initially see himself as a gay crusader. He has said repeatedly that he only fought to get what was his -- the pension he earned.

But his ethics are such that he couldn't bring himself to life, even about something as "minor" as his sexuality.

"My mother was very strict about lying," said Watkins.

Over 20 years ago when he saw the question on the Army application about being gay, his first thought was of her.

"I thought that if I lie and get thrown out, my mother would kill me."

"She wouldn't mind at all that I'm gay but she would absolutely die if I lied to get in the Army and then

got thrown out."

Watkins, with a message about falling in love with a man on his answer machine, has had a handful of victories against the military but it still has been a long, drawn-out campaign.

Watkins admitted he was gay when drafted and continued to be open about his sexuality each time he re-enlisted.

For 15 years, there was no problem.

But in 1981, the Army began to crack down on known homosexuals by changing the regulations to include anyone who was gay, not just anyone caught in homosexual acts.

As a result of his openness, Watkins was kicked out.

Watkins sued and won but three years later, a mid-level appeals court ruled against him.

Two years ago, the appellate court in San Francisco said that the 15-

year veteran could not be dismissed solely on the basis of being gay.

A further court ruling said that the Army had to reinstate Watkins and allow him to serve until he was eligible for retirement.

But the military was not used to losing wars -- especially against one lone homosexual. It took the case to the highest court in the land, hoping to win.

It lost and with this final ruling, Watkins should be able to re-enlist in the Army and serve till retirement or take a financial settlement.

Despite his gain, the case has cost Watkins dearly.

Although his legal expenses have been covered by the American Civil Liberties Union and Watkins now works for the federal government, he became unemployable, lost his home and had to file bankruptcy once he was booted out.

"It cost me credibility as an employable person," said Watkins.

Watkins figures the total cost, including his lower income, is easily \$150,000 to \$200,000 which he will not be able to recover from the government.

Until this ruling, he also would have lost a 15-year pension.

Yet for the man who doesn't believe in lying, the decade-long struggle has been worth the price -- not just for himself but also for others.

Watkins thinks his success will benefit other gays in the military.

"It's a very narrow line between my case and others -- especially for those with exemplary records," said Watkins. "It will weigh very heavily."

"The military will come out and change the regulation very, very soon." ▽

MGW

NEWS PAPER

For Men and Women of the Gay Community and Friends

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MGW WRITE

Veterans and the Gay Flag

The following letter was sent to Assemblyman Gil Ferguson.

Assemblyman Ferguson,

Your caustic remark equating our gay flag with pedophiles is irresponsible, insulting and degrading to millions of homosexual citizens of the State of California and the United States.

Do you equate the United States Flag with the rampant heterosexual adultery and the large number of heterosexual child molesters?

As a veteran of two wars I deplore your unconscionable comment about our gay flag. Your action negates over two million homosexual veterans' contribution to freedom. Be assured that we shall continue to put the gay flag "in your face," until all citizens of the State of California and the United States are first class citizens, free from bigoted and hateful comments and actions.

You are a disgrace to the American cause for equality. You owe every peace-loving citizen an apology.

Chuck Schoen

Doesn't like Sacramento

Dear Editor:

After living in Sacramento for the past 11 months, I have found the people here to be cold, unfriendly, uptight, and cliquish, especially at the gay bars. I have stopped going to the gay bars here.

About eight years ago, I moved to Houston (where I did not know anyone) for a couple of months. I found the people there to be very friendly while walking the streets, riding their bus system, going to the gay bars, etc. For me it is quite the opposite here.

It is my opinion that many people here need to go to the South (maybe somewhere like Houston) where they can learn some manners and etiquette. I am very proud to be from the South, where the people are still friendly.

David Raffield

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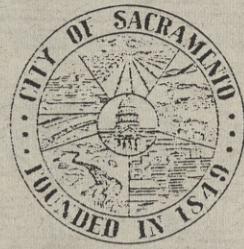
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I have always been proud to support your community.

Mayor Anne Rudin

Sacramento City Council

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NEWS PAPER

Take back
the night

Jo Daiko Drummers
at Women Take
Back the Night rally.
Photo by
Pamela Coffey



Rev. Ed Sherriff,
the new director
of Hope House,
receives a check
for \$2335 from
Dennis Mangers and
Steve Winlock.
The proceeds were
raised at Mangers'
50th birthday bash.
Photo by Art Farmer.

Funds donated
toward AIDS

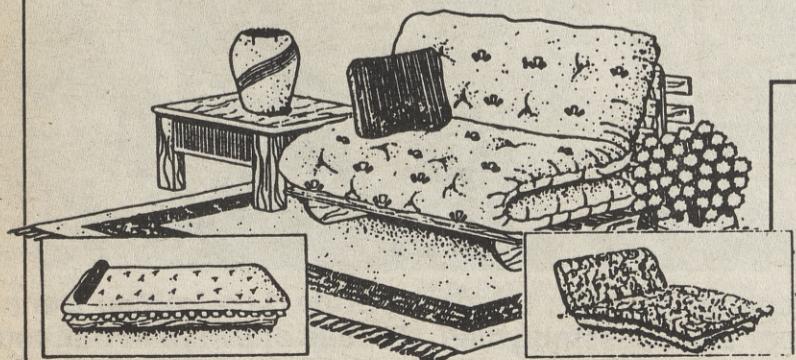
SAF Executive
Director Janet Rogers
receives a check
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MGW EDITORIAL

The importance of books

In this issue we are pleased to feature a special section on books. Over the past few years, there has been a tremendous upsurge in the quantity and quality of books by, about, and for gay and lesbian people -- a far better situation than in those not-so-long-ago days when we were mentioned in psychological texts as deviates and we always suffered well-earned death or destruction in the last pages of novels.

Books seem to play a very important part in the lives of lesbians and gay men. Often we look to books as we're coming out to help us figure out why we're different. We look to books to find evidence of the notable lives and outstanding achievements of gay people -- to help us establish a sense of a continuing gay culture. We look to books for documentation of the atrocities perpetrated against gay people through the ages.

Books also help us find structures and theories for developing a positive sense of who we are and how we can change oppressive social conditions. Books provide us with a sense of shared experiences -- with other gay people in our own time and culture, with gay women and men in times past and places foreign to us.

And, of course, we read books because they bring us pleasure -- pleasure in a story well told, in an emotion we recognize, in a thought that applies to our own lives. There is pleasure, too, in the physical properties of the books themselves -- distinctive typography, beautiful illustrations, the feel of the paper, the texture of the binding, the heft of the volume.

Books have their mystical aspects as well: through the power of your imagination acting upon another imagination's creation, you can share extraordinary adventures, live marvelous fantasies, see invisible sights, hear silent sounds -- and enormously enrich your own experience.

Perhaps another aspect of books that appeals to us is their private nature. Especially when we first are realizing our gayness, but even after, when most of us by necessity spend most of our time in a nongay world, our gay identity is a private experience, little shared with co-workers, neighbors, and others with whom we come in daily casual contact. In such situations a gay book can be a treasured companion, a reassuring voice, a friend and advisor.

But it is nice to know, too, that books are public objects -- they sit in plain view on bookstore shelves, in library stacks, on tables and desks. Reviewers talk about them in newspapers and magazines. And so people see them, and learn that we do exist, that we are validated in literature, that we are no longer banished to dark closets.

For non-gay people this may be a way of coming closer to accepting gayness and gay people -- it's not really even necessary that they read the books, though that's even better. For gay people this can be a way of validating our identity, which is always under assault in a heterosexist culture.

Finally, books have a permanence that most other forms of popular media lack. Once read, they can be returned to, studied, marked up -- or they can be set aside and then rediscovered much later as a wholly different experience, because as we change, our books change, too -- at least our perception of them does. Film, radio, television -- these media are ephemeral, usually shallow, and beyond our control. But books are an active, personal experience: we decide what to read, when to read, and how to understand what we read.

This issue of MGW presents notices and reviews of many different books that can loosely be called "gay books." Old and new, fiction and non-fiction, literary and technical -- something, we hope, for everyone. Lioness Books, Judy's Bookstore, Midtown Books, and Tower Books all have a large selection of gay books. We hope you enjoy our reviews and the books themselves. ▼



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Lioness presents "Femertainment"

On Saturday and Sunday, December 15-16, from 10am to 6pm, Lioness Books will be presenting "Femertainment" their first annual holiday party, featuring local musicians, poets, writers and other entertainers. There is no cover charge for the event, although we will be doing fundraising for the Performing Animal Welfare Society (PAWS). Schedules with times for individual performances will be available at Lioness Books, 2224 J Street, open Monday through Friday 11am-7pm; Saturday noon to 6pm; Sunday noon to 4pm. For more information call 442-4657. ▼

Lambda Players present night of one-acts

The Lambda Players will be presenting a night of three one-acts Saturdays and Sundays, December 1-16. Performances will be held at the Lambda Community Center, 1931 L Street. Shows presented will be *Kid Stuff* by Ethan Mordenn. A world premiere by the highly acclaimed New York author focusing on a loving, caring, incestuous relationship between brothers. *I'd Know You Anywhere* by Julia Willis. A lunchtime reunion between two high school acquaintances with differing views on their sexuality. And *On Tidy Endings* (the third act of *Safe Sex*) by Harvey Fierstein. Examines the interactions between the ex-wife and the lover of a man who has died of AIDS. Tickets are \$5 advance, \$7 at the door. Reservations are strongly recommended. Doors open at 7:45, curtain at 8:15. For reservations, call 442-0185. ▼

Lambda Players hold auditions

The Lambda Players will be holding auditions for Caryl Churchill's parody on racism, sexism, and homophobia, *Cloud Nine*. A short song, to be sung a capella, will be required, as well as a British accent. Auditions will be held Wednesday, December 19 and Thursday, December 20 at 7pm at the Lambda Center, 1931 L Street. ▼

Volunteers needed

Both women and men are needed to participate in the new lesbian/gay speaker's bureau sponsored by the River City Democratic Club and the Lambda Community Center.

Participants make presentations which foster better understanding of gay issues and improve relationships between law enforcement officers and our community.

Already, the 14 members of the speakers' bureau have spoken to sociology classes at UC Davis and Sacramento City College, a graduate class in social work and mental health for nursing students at CSU Sacramento, Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays, Sacramento Police Department rookies, and Sacramento County Sheriff's Department.

For more information call Marghe Covino at 371-3848 or Judy Ludwick at 429-2806. ▼

Ceremonies of the Heart

Watch for the *Ceremonies of the Heart: Celebrating Lesbian Unions*, to be featured on the *Phil Donahue Show* sometime in early December (call Channel 3 for exact time).

The show will be dealing with accounts of the couples' respective ceremonies, the response from family and friends, and the gay and lesbian movement to legalize domestic partnerships.

Ceremonies of the Heart: Celebrating Lesbian Unions, is the first book to document ceremonies of commitment between lesbian partners. In it, 27 couples describe the unique form of ritual they chose to express and publicly celebrate their bond and their experience of gathering friends and family to witness the joyous occasion. The stories are introduced by an essay on lesbian unions throughout history as well as recent developments in the gay and lesbian movement to legalize domestic partnerships. ▼

"Less Miserable Tonight"

Members of the cast of *Les Miserables*, San Francisco's longest running Broadway musical now playing at the Curran Theatre, will present "Less Miserable Tonight," an intimate evening of music and song, on Monday, December 10, at 8pm at Fort Mason's Cowell Theatre. The 440 seat theatre will be host to this special performance in honor of Actors' Equity Association's "Equity Fights AIDS Week."

Equity Fights AIDS was established in 1987 to financially assist its members living with AIDS. In last year's fund drive, the San Francisco company of *Les Miserables* raised over \$14,000 -- with 100 percent of all monies going directly to members in need.

Tickets: 415-552-3656, at STBS, and all BASS outlets. Tickets are \$25, and all proceeds will be sent directly to Equity Fights AIDS. ▼

Vacancy announcements

Sacramento City Council

Interested persons are required to file written notice on forms available in the Office of the CITY CLERK, 915 I St., Rm. 303, Sacramento. Further information may be obtained by telephone at 916-449-8200.

Commission/Committee	Opens	Closes	Type of Member
City Planning Commission	12-7-90		3 city residents

County of Sacramento

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Commission/Committee	Opens	Closes	Type of Member
Policy Planning Commission	12-31-90	1-11-91	5 members
Project Planning Commission	12-31-90	1-11-91	5 members

Conference sets state plan for new legislative session

by M.R. Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Sacramento, CA -- Sixty gay men and lesbians from all over California met at a consensus conference with the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE) in the State Capitol Saturday, Nov. 15. The conference was designed to allow participants to brainstorm ideas and to formulate plans for the upcoming legislative session.

One issue which recurred throughout the meeting was the need to create a coalition between gay and non-gay communities of interest i.e. cancer advocacy and AIDS groups; health care insurance consumer groups, women's and people of color groups. Some discussion centered around HIV positive people in the prison system and their desperate plight when they are released from prison, ill and with no shelter, no medical care and no follow-up on their conditions.

A good deal of the discussion centered around AIDS and AIDS-related topics. In the last legislative session at least \$5 million was cut from HIV programs. Although the AIDS Budget Task Force recommended a state AIDS budget of \$450 million for 1990, the final budget amount was approximately \$60 million. In 1991 the state is still facing a deficit of from \$2 to \$4 billion. However, legislation will be introduced in 1991 to capture a larger part of the budget.

In 1991 LIFE's number one priority will be the passage of a bill which adds sexual orientation to the state's non-discrimination laws. The primary thrust for non-discrimination will be in the areas of employment and housing.

Domestic partners legislation will continue to be a priority for the LIFE Lobby by changing the definition of what constitutes a family at the state level. This will be key in the provision of health and survivor benefits for couples in long-term relationships.

LIFE will also look toward expanding bills which were presented in the 1990 session:

* The insurance reimbursement issue needs to be expanded to include Investigation New Drugs (INDs) and other investigational drugs which are already being used in treatment.

* The residential care bill needs to have a supplementary rate structure added to improve the financing of hospice care.

* Non-discrimination on the basis of HIV status is covered by the state Fair Employment and Housing Commission however discrimination on the basis of HIV status or perceived HIV infection is not banned by state law. Governor Deukmejian vetoed four efforts to change state law.

* Protection of HIV positive person's right to medical care: A recent National Commission on AIDS report indicates physicians still refuse to treat patients with AIDS or to take patients who are members of high-risk groups. Two attempts to pass a bill to ban the practice of "patient-dumping" have been blocked.

* Mandatory HIV prevention in public schools: Bills requiring all school districts to provide such instruction have been vetoed five times. Parental notification is a major issue each time this bill comes up as well as prior parental consent.

Prior consent requires that parents give their permission in writing before the child could receive instruction and presents an impediment to HIV prevention education.

* Presumptive Disability for Health Care Workers: California Nursing Association (CNA) sponsored legislation which would grant presumptive disability to health care workers under certain circumstances. This bill was vetoed by the Governor in the last session.

* Mandatory counseling to accompany HIV testing: Two bills which would require counseling for persons testing positive for HIV

have been vetoed.

* Paraphernalia exchange: The strategy of providing clean needle exchange to the IV drug user population has been successfully used both nationally and internationally and has been demonstrably effective in preventing HIV infection without encouraging the use of illegal drugs.

* Minority HIV issues: Currently most people with color HIV are perceived as having contracted the virus through IV drug use. However, in California 75 to 80 percent of all HIV cases were contracted through sexual contact between males. Homophobia, cultural barriers and lack of education about high risk behaviors continue to be hindrances to effective educational efforts in these communities. Special consideration should be given to programs which would encourage minority populations to seek health monitoring and care.

* Health Insurance: The state's health care crisis has impacted the fight against HIV and other catastrophic illnesses which affect the gay and lesbian community adversely. The lobby will continue to advocate reform of health insurance underwriting practices which discriminate against persons with HIV, gay men or those who suffer from catastrophic illnesses and to advocate for a system of universal health care in California.

* Medi-Cal Reform: Reimbursement to health care providers needs to be increased to encourage more of them to accept Medi-Cal patients. It may also be necessary to require providers to accept a given number of Medi-Cal patients as a condition of licensure;

Benefits should be expanded to include case management;

Benefits should include home health care and community-based care as regular, viable options;

Eligibility restrictions should be

See Conference on page 8

ACTIVISM: It's up to you



Everett Denman, Sacramento ACT-UP; Laurie McBride, Life Lobby; Dennis Mangers, lobbyist, former state assemblyman, discuss activism in our community at CAPPAC's Educational Forum at the Town House. The discussion ranged from ACT-UP's "out there" actions to the behind the scenes of educating people in power quietly. Photo by Pamela Coffey

**MGW WISHES YOU A SAFE
AND HAPPY HOLIDAY SEASON**

MGW MEDIA WATCH

by Ben Carlson
GLAAD/SFBA

Fox Broadcasting

The Fox Broadcasting Co. featured gay characters in two of its most popular shows in October. On Thursday, October 18, *The Simpsons* featured a story in which Homer Simpson hired a gay man, Carl, as a secretary. Carl's voice was supplied by openly gay writer/actor Harvey Fierstein. Carl's homosexuality, though not explicitly discussed, was treated with uncharacteristic matter-of-factness. When Carl affectionately kissed Homer on the lips and patted him on the rear, there was none of the homophobic hysteria usually exhibited by straight TV characters in such situations.

On Sunday, October 21, *Married...With Children* featured a story in which a friendship developed between Pete, a gay man, and regular character Al Bundy. Pete's lover Andy had been going out dancing with Al's wife Peg, and Pete enlisted Al's help in getting his lover to spend more time at home. Al seemed perfectly at ease with Pete, though he had obviously never known a gay man before.

According to Fox, the bulk of viewer response to these shows has been from people angered by the presence of gay characters on television.

Let Fox know that you are glad to see gay characters presented in a natural way. But clue them in to the fact that not all homosexuals are men. Write to: Peter Chernin, president and Paul Stupin, senior vice president of programming, Fox Broadcasting Co., 10201 W. Pico Blvd., L.A., CA 90064. Call Mr. Chernin at (213) 277-2211.▼

Oakland Tribune

The publisher and managing editor of the *Oakland Tribune* met on October 10 with 20 representatives of East Bay lesbian, gay and bisexual groups. The session, initiated by the *Tribune's* management as part of its stepped-up efforts to dialogue with communities it serves, lasted well over an hour and was deemed by all present to have been quite productive. *The Tribune* seems genuinely interested in covering the gay community fairly and accurately.▼

Chronicle

On Monday, October 29 the *Chronicle* devoted its lead editorial to the Cincinnati incident in which two men were arrested for holding hands while sitting in a parked car. The *Chronicle* called the action "offensive to any civilized person." After referring to the imminent Halloween celebration, the *Chronicle* concluded the piece: "It is time to remind the police and gay-bashers that San Francisco is not Cincinnati, but a place where people of diverse approaches to life are entitled to live in harmony."

At a recent meeting with the *Chronicle*, GLAAD stressed the particular threat of anti-gay violence on Halloween and requested a peremptory editorial. Thank the paper by writing to Thomas Benet, chief editorial writer, 901 Mission St., San Francisco, CA 94103.▼

Time

Time Magazine has excluded gays from several recent stories in which gays should have been included. A cover story on New York City's woes focused on racially motivated hate crimes but didn't mention the dramatic rise in hate crimes against gays. Gays were also omitted from articles on which supremists' campaigns against "Jews and non-whites," Justice David Souter's legal history, and an article that described several rights issues involving fundamental liberties which are being heard in state courts.

Write to Henry Muller, managing editor, *Time*, Time/Life Building, Rockefeller Center, N.Y., N.Y. 10020.▼

Arsenio Hall

In a recent interview with *US Magazine*, Arsenio Hall commented that he wouldn't be caught dancing with Madonna because "there seems to be a trend of qualifications going on with (her) dancers. I probably won't be able to fit the bill. They are a little light in their Capezios. I worry about guys who say, 'oh, I don't like his hair.'"

Write to Arsenio Hall, 5555 Melrose Ave., L.A., CA 90038.▼

FBI

Frank Buttino, a highly decorated agent who was fired by the FBI for being gay, is suing his former employer for discrimination. Buttino's lawyers have made public a letter from FBI Director William Sessions to Rep. Don Edwards (D-San Jose) which says that "the issue of homosexual conduct by employees of the FBI raises serious policy considerations" involving "public trust and confidence."

At the same time, much of the press has been praising Sessions for increasing black and hispanic visibility at the agency. Insist that gays are equally as deserving of agency jobs in a letter to William Sessions, director, Federal Bureau of Investigations, 10th St. and Pennsylvania Ave., N.W., Washington, DC 20535 or call 202-324-3000.

Write to former FBI agent Rep. Don Edwards to request that he respond to Sessions' letter by condemning the FBI's irrational and discriminatory policy. Write to Rep. Don Edwards, 2307 RHOB, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC 20515.▼

Welcome Home, Roxy Carmichael

According to an AP wire story, after Paramount Pictures found that screening audiences reacted negatively, scenes of physical intimacy between two women were removed from the completed version of *Welcome Home, Roxy Carmichael*. Now, an abbreviated bedroom scene with bisexual Roxy and another woman only "hints elliptically at their lovemaking."

Write to Frank Mancuso, CEO, Paramount Pictures, 5555 Melrose Ave., L.A., CA 90038. Thank the screenwriter for including lesbian and bisexual characters by writing to Karen Leigh Hopkins, c/o Inter-talent Agency, Inc., 927 5th St., Santa Monica, CA 90403.▼

Fundamentalist vs. Waldenbooks

American Family Association (AFA) is targeting Waldenbooks owner K-Mart to protest the bookstore chain's sales of books about lesbian and gays. The AFA labels all such books as "gay pornography." For years Waldenbooks and other booksellers have been lobbied to carry more lesbian and gay titles. To offset the AFA's damage, write to Joseph Antonini, chairman, K-Mart Corp., 3100 W. Big Beaver Rd., Troy, MI 48084, or call 1-800-635-6278.▼

Thanks to your letters

Real-estate writer Sylvia Porter has apologized to GLAAD for offensive statements about the need to "fumigate" a house previously occupied by a person with AIDS which appear in her book *A Home of Your Own*. The statements will be deleted from future issues.▼

Congratulate the media for fair, accurate and diverse coverage of lesbians and gays. Protest defamatory coverage. Notify the Gay and Lesbian Alliance Against Defamation of all defamations, and if possible supply them with copies or recordings. Contact GLAAD at 552-1935.▼

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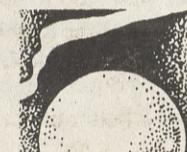
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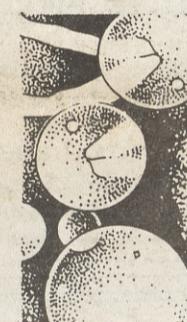
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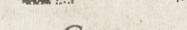


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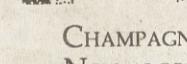
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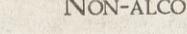
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Gay pride: History is the key

by Raoul Anthony Renaud
OF MGW STAFF

The Gay and Lesbian Historical Society of Northern California was formed several years ago in San Francisco to provide a forum for the preservation of the history of our community. Gay and Lesbian people need to have a sense of their past in order to make meaningful progress toward equality and the GLHSNC exists for that purpose.

The Society publishes a fascinating quarterly newsletter called "Our Stories." In it you will find interviews with gay and lesbian people about their past, reviews of books with gay and lesbian historical themes, and news of works in progress in the gay and lesbian academic world.

The Fall 1990 issue of "Our Stories" contains an account by "Robert" of gay life in San Francisco in the '40s and '50s which gives the reader a glimpse of what it was like to be gay back then and, more importantly, provides perspective on how far we have come since then.

The GLHSNC also maintains an archive of historical documents which is available for public use. For more information on the Society, or to subscribe to "Our Stories," contact them at Box 42126, San Francisco 94142; phone 415-626-0980.▼

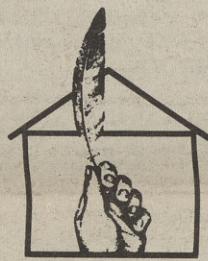
Domestic partners law wins big

by Raoul Anthony Renaud
OF MGW STAFF

By a margin of 54.5 to 45.5 percent, San Francisco voters approved a measure permitting unmarried, unrelated adults living together to register their partnerships with the

County Clerk.

While the new law grants no specific rights to such couples, it is viewed by its supporters as a significant first step toward securing for unmarried couples the same rights and privileges currently enjoyed by heterosexual married couples.▼



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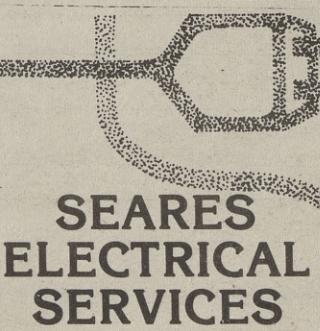
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Local fair shows how to conserve resources

by Betty Garcia
OF MGW STAFF

The first annual Environmental Fair was held in Sacramento and sponsored by KQPT (The Point) and KXTV Channel 10. The fair was designed to bring forward options available to Sacramento's community to help conserve our resources.

Among the 40+ booths, the California Department of Fish and Game presented literature expressing the need to protect our wildlife, and reminded us that we can help endangered wildlife species by filling in Line 45 on your State Tax return, it's 100% tax deductible.

Regional Transit offered suggestions for transportation improve-

ment by welcoming bicycles aboard the bus lines. There are a few rules, so check with the RT Station before trying to board with your bicycle.

The Sacramento Tree Foundation has incorporated a citizen tree campaign titled "Trees for Tomorrow." This will promote the planting of one million trees in the city of Sacramento by the year 2000. SMUD has joined the tree planting effort through its "Trees are Cool" Shade Tree Planting Program. Their combined efforts are striving for a goal of planting 500,000 trees by year 2000 and 28,000 by the end of 1991. Through its conservation measures, SMUD anticipates that it will mitigate the need for rate hikes, the construction of costly power plants, and the purchase of

power from outside sources. Other benefits expressed by the Tree Foundation are that trees provide oxygen, take in carbon dioxide, cool the earth and air and reduce noise.

All participants generated great ideas and solutions for conserving our resources. Products ranging from health and beauty supplies to recycled plastic products were available to the public.

This year's fair packed in hundreds of Sacramentans and brought forward the technology and alternative methods available to our community. Using these new advancements will enable us to make our goal to conserve resources no longer an unrealistic ambition.▼

UCD hosts statewide conference

by Ken Thompson
OF MGW STAFF

The third in a series of systemwide conferences was held in Davis during the weekend of November 16-18 to discuss the concerns of the University of California lesbian, gay and bisexual community. Members from all nine University of California campuses were in attendance.

The purpose of this conference was to help bring about change in the policies of the University of California regarding lesbian, gay

and bisexual students, staff and faculty. Also to share experiences and learn what we can do as individuals to help facilitate the needed changes in the UC system.

The UC Davis conference Saturday continued discussions started at UC Santa Barbara, and continued at the UC Irvine conference. These discussions revolved around seven main issues: UCLGBA organization; resource center and staffing; ROTC banning; student family housing/domestic partnerships; curriculum; diversity; and education.

Addressing this conference was the speaker, Donna Yutzy -- executive director of the UC Student Association and two guest speakers, Alan Lofaso and John Durand of the Lobby for Individual Freedom and Equality (LIFE AIDS Lobby). Also in attendance, and participating, were members representing the Cal State System from CSUS and SFSU.

The conference, and the dance that followed, was a great success. Those in attendance agreed that a milestone had been reached in developing a strong and effective lesbian, gay and bisexual presence within the University of California community.

There were discussions and sharing of information regarding the progress being made on each campus in regard to the various resolutions made at previous conferences. If you are interested in attending future UC conferences, or you would like more information about either the conference, or the UCLGBA, contact BGLAD of Davis at 433 Russell Blvd., Davis 95616.▼

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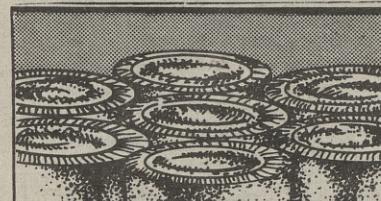
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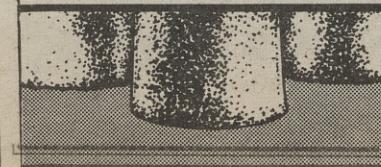
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ATD2 care, it makes sense to print

—by Sonya Cox

ROUGH RIDE AHEAD...

Last month 6,013 people died of AIDS in the United States — an average of 200 a day. So far 95,774 Americans have perished to this monster, including 19,898 Californians. In the first seven years of the epidemic, we lost over 30,000. Last YEAR, we lost that many. We are quickly heading toward doubling the loss of 58,022 we suffered during the Viet Nam war. And we're surely at war: the Centers for Disease Control is projecting the rate could double every year. They estimate that, by the end of 1993 (36 months from now), there will be as many as 480,000 cases of AIDS, and about 340,000 will have died from it. They further estimate there are currently one million cases of HIV in this country, the majority of which are as yet undiagnosed. Are you one of them? PLEASE don't be. In Sacramento, approximately 1,000 people are being treated for HIV and AIDS. It's thought that about 4,000 others in this city are HIV-positive and are receiving no treatment, and that a huge percentage of these have not yet, for whatever reasons, been tested. The only chance you have is to start NOW taking care of your immune system — and this means GET TESTED and immediately begin treatment, no matter where you are in the spectrum of this illness. Expanded research and knowledge are continually creating new ways to treat this disease. Some day a solution will be found, and you owe it to yourself and those who love you to be here when that day comes. There is only one way to stop this epidemic: keep the disease within your own body if you have it, and protect yourself from getting it if you don't. CONDOMS, CONDOMS, CONDOMS. Yes, we miss body fluids, as one wise leatherman recently said. But, he added, we'll keep missing them until we get out of this mess. Find out how to stay well, and give yourself a fighting chance at being around when a solution to this horrible epidemic is finally found. Seek out support — emotional, medical, spiritual — to get you through the coming years. You DON'T have to do this alone, and there's no need to. Inform yourself about how the virus is transmitted. Know that it's NOT alright for two people who are positive to have unprotected sex even with each other. Learn about this disease. It's all around you. Resolve that for the coming year you'll become part of the solution to this devastating destruction. If everyone who were positive protected every partner every time, we'd be on the road to recovery. Protect YOURSELF as if everyone you meet is carrying the virus. Protect yourself as if your life depends on, because it does.

NO QUESTION IS A SILLY ONE...

It's fairly easy to become informed about the various diseases and infections associated with HIV and AIDS. Since most people don't ask a lot of questions about the virus until it hits them or someone they know or love, the basic questions are asked every day. Never think it's not OK to call local resources and say you don't know a thing about HIV: they're expecting your call. Make a point THIS MONTH to call and find out all you can. The Sacramento AIDS Foundation (1900 K Street, 448-2437) has an excellent library of videos on the specific infections that often come with an AIDS diagnosis, as well as books (such as *HIV from A to Z*), leaflets, and pharmaceutical information. Project Inform gives out medical information and anonymously answers questions of all types at 1-800 334-7422 (discuss what they tell you with your physician; sometimes the viewpoints will conflict). Also try PWA (people with AIDS) HOTLINE at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 1-800 367-2437. Let this be the year we get a handle on this disease in Sacramento.

Counties' cooperation can meet AIDS challenge

Sacramento and surrounding counties must adopt a regional approach to acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) planning and provision of specialty services to successfully meet the challenge of the AIDS crisis, reports *HIV 2000*, an integrated planning project written by the Center for AIDS Research, Education and Services (CARES) and the Sacramento AIDS Foundation (SAF). The report was funded by the federal Health Resources and Services Administration, an agency of the Public Health Service in the US Department of Health and Human Services, the County of Sacramento and The Sierra Foundation (TSF), an independent private foundation committed to supporting health and health-related activities in Northern California.

"We have found that people must receive basic medical care and case management services in their home communities during the 10 year course of the disease. What isn't in place are the linkages for specialty services -- pediatric care, foster care, skilled nursing -- from the small communities to Sacramento. Because of the cost associated with AIDS care, it makes sense to build

a volume for services on a regional basis," explained Sue Rooney Strong, co-author of the report and administrator of CARES.

"We see this as the beginning of the planning process," said Patty Blomberg, co-author of the report and deputy director of the Sacramento AIDS Foundation. "We have already seen the start of a consensus on specialty services around the University of California at Davis. The next step would be for a community-based organization to continue the effort toward regionalization into reality."

The report provides an overview of the issues facing the four-county area including El Dorado, Placer, Sacramento and Yolo and explains what the HIV positive person may experience in terms of the financial impact of his/her illness.

Major findings of the project include:

1. Cumulative new cases of AIDS are projected to exceed 1,000 persons by 1993. The cost of outpatient ambulatory care is projected to exceed \$7 million by 1992 for the four-county region.
2. Current techniques used to project

See Counties' on page 8

MARIJUANA OK...

Of the 59,000 people currently living with AIDS in the United States, two have now been given special permission by the Food and Drug Administration to use marijuana from the government's stock to reduce nausea, vomiting and pain. The Alliance for Cannabis Therapeutics helped the 34-year-old Virginia man fight and win his case.

MORE MICROWAVE WARNINGS...

Another study has reaffirmed the need to heat all microwaved foods to the maximum time suggested on the package, including times for setting before being removed from oven so that food is heated uniformly and thoroughly throughout. A new study from England says that, because high levels of salt absorb a great deal of heat, salty foods may not become fully cooked even when following standard microwaving instructions. The result is that the food becomes a breeding ground for illness-causing bacteria. People with HIV or AIDS must especially guard against introducing bacteria into their body. Do not eat any foods that aren't thoroughly cooked. If in doubt, go for over-kill on the cooking, and allow additional "standing" time after cooking for heat distribution.

RISK STUDY FOR HEALTH WORKERS...

Federal researchers report that a health-care worker's risk of HIV infection after being exposed by a cut or puncture to an object con-

taminated with HIV, is about 1 in 300. Of 159 people who had been exposed to HIV-infected blood in one portion of the National Institutes of Health study, only one worker who had received a deep cut became positive. The fact that the others didn't only brings out the complexity of the dynamics of transmission. Reasons suggested for the fact that more didn't become positive include the stage of the patient's illness, the number of infected cells in the patient's blood, and the fact that the patient may have been on AZT. Fascinating concepts, all of them.

NEW BOOK SLAMS RESEARCHERS...

Leading AIDS researchers are under fierce attack in a new book charging they've put their careers ahead of the lives of the thousands dying of the disease. The book "Good Intentions: How Big Business and the Medical Establishment are Corrupting the Fight Against AIDS," by Bruce Nussbaum, is expected to rival the 1987 work "And the Band Played On" by Randy Shilts, which depicts a "great conspiracy of the federal government in cahoots with the pharmaceutical industry." Shilts attacked low federal funding for AIDS; Nussbaum says hundreds of millions of dollars devoted to curing the disease have allegedly been squandered through mismanagement. He blames Dr. Anthony Fauci, head of AIDS research at National Institutes of Health, for not advising doctors soon enough to administer aerosolized pentamidine; dur-

ing the two year delay, 17,000 people died of pneumonia. He also blasts Burroughs Wellcome, Dr. Robert Gallo, and others saying that "conflicts of interest, mismanagement, greed and personal ambition ... have wasted 10 years and a small fortune of the public's money."

NO QUESTION IS A SILLY ONE...

It's fairly easy to become informed about the various diseases and infections associated with HIV and AIDS. Since most people don't ask a lot of questions about the virus until it hits them or someone they know or love, the basic questions are asked every day. Never think it's not OK to call local resources and say you don't know a thing about HIV: they're expecting your call. The Sacramento AIDS Foundation (1900 K Street, 448-2437) has an excellent library of videos on the specific infections that often come with an AIDS diagnosis, as well as books (such as *HIV from A to Z*), leaflets, and pharmaceutical information. Project Inform gives out medical information and answers questions for all types at 1-800-334-7422 (discuss what they tell you with your physician; sometimes the viewpoints will conflict). Also try PWA (people with AIDS) HOTLINE at the San Francisco AIDS Foundation, 1-800-367-2437.

Thanks to Dr. Jeff Payne for his medical oversight of this column, and to Dr. Elizabeth Harrison for her contributions to its contents. ▼

MGW OBITUARIES

Robert E. Franklin

Robert E. Franklin died November 16 in North Hollywood from AIDS. He was 46 years old. Franklin was a stage designer for the Richmond Museum Theater, the Denver Center Theater, and Art Director for many New York and Los Angeles television and film productions. Franklin was a member of the United Scenic Artists and the Society of Motion Picture and Television Art Directors. He is survived by his wife, a son and a brother.

Contributions may be made to Aid for AIDS, 8235 Santa Monica Blvd., #200, West Hollywood 90046. ▼

Kenneth Wells

Died in San Leandro, November 16. He is lovingly remembered by his partner in life, Ken Billheimer, his parents, grandparents, and many other family members. Donations will be greatly appreciated to East Bay AIDS Foundation. ▼

Peter Pender

Peter Pender, a world-ranked bridge player and the owner of Fife's a gay resort on the Russian River, died at his Pacific Heights home after a four-year bout with AIDS. He was 54.

Pender had to fight the Australian government last year to win a visa so he could compete in the Bridge World Championships in Perth. The visa was originally withheld from him because he had been HIV+ for years, and had developed ARC. Officials relented and Pender was allowed to compete.

Mr. Pender moved to the Bay Area in 1960. While running Fife's, a resort in Guerneville, he lived in San Francisco, becoming semi-reclusive during the past year.

There are no survivors. Contributions are preferred to Continuum, a service program for those infected with the AIDS virus, located at 10 United Nations Plaza, Suite 200, San Francisco 94102. ▼

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John "Jack" Daniel Getchell

John "Jack" Daniel Getchell died November 8 after a long illness. He was born in Oakland, and had been a Davis resident since 1983. Mr. Getchell was 41 years old.

He is survived by sisters, brothers, his parents, grandparents and numerous other friends and relatives. The family acknowledges the concern and efforts shown by the Lighthouse, the UCD Medical Center, the Sacramento County AIDS Foundation, Yolo County Hospice, and all the health care professionals and volunteers who assisted in the care of Mr. Getchell. ▼

Larry Butler Davis

Born in Los Angeles in 1945. Died in San Leandro November 8. He is survived by his beloved companion, Patrick J. Russell, his parents, his sister and his brothers. Memorial gifts to the East Bay AIDS Center, 2640 Telegraph, Berkeley 94704 are preferred. ▼

Chris E. Coonrod

Chris E. Coonrod died on November 9 at the Sonoma Valley Hospital from complications arising from HIV disease. He was 39 years old. He attended Foothill College in Los Altos and Drury College in Springfield, MO. He was employed at Macy's, then pursued a career in telecommunications, working for Pacific Telephone, Compath, Sprint, and Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center. Prior to his illness, Chris was employed as a telecommunication training consultant. Chris is survived by his longtime companion, Richard Holman of Sonoma, his mother, brother, niece, grandmother and many other family and loving friends.

Contributions may be sent to Face To Face, Sonoma County AIDS Network, Box 1599, Guerneville, 95446. ▼

Denis Rondeau

Denis Rondeau passed away November 9, 1990, at Kaiser South in Sacramento. A talented artisan, Denis ran Rondeau Upholstering and Interior Design. He will be remembered for his special ability to identify diamonds-in-the-rough "objets d'art" and miraculously transform them with creative makeovers. Denis is survived by family and friends both in Sacramento and the greater Boston area. Services are private with interment at the family plot in the Boston area. Only 31 years old, Denis was another taken from us by AIDS-related complications despite intensive medical support. ▼

Vito Russo

Vito Russo, film historian and journalist, whose book "The Celluloid Closet" is considered the definitive work on gay images in American movies, died in New York of complications from AIDS. He was 44.

A native New Yorker and freelance writer, Mr. Russo's reviews, essays and interviews appeared in Esquire, New York, Rolling Stone, the Village Voice, and the Advocate.

After his AIDS diagnosis in 1985, Mr. Russo became an advocate for AIDS patients. He was prominently featured in the documentary, "Common Threads: Stories from the Quilt."

Mr. Russo maintained close ties to the Bay Area. In 1986 he was honored by the San Francisco International Lesbian and Gay Film Festival.

Mr. Russo is survived by his parents, his brother, two nieces and a nephew. His long-time companion, Jeffrey Sevcik, died of AIDS in 1986. ▼

Buddy Connection '90

This fun, sex-positive workshop uses exercises, videos and tips on safe and pleasurable sex to encourage men to take charge and eliminate unsafe sex. *Buddy Connections* are held from 7-9 p.m. at the SAF Training Space, 1900 K Street, Suite 200, Sacramento. You'll be glad you came!

The next one's on
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Fri., Mar. 15,
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December 1, 1990 MDM... GUESS WHAT NEWSPAPER Page 7

Creating Change: Moving towards each other

by Brian Polejs
GUEST WRITER

Diversity was the key word for the National Gay & Lesbian Task Force's 3rd Annual "Creating Change" conference held November 10-12 at the Holiday Inn Metrodome, Minneapolis, "where the men are good looking, the women are strong, and gay and lesbian civil rights are above average."

After a ritual from the American Indian Gays and Lesbians of Minneapolis-St. Paul, three of four openly lesbian and gay officials in the Twin Cities including State Representative Karen Clark, State

Senator Allan Spear, and Minneapolis City Councilmember Brian Coyle, greeted the over 700 participants from around the country Saturday morning.

Of the three conference plenary speakers, two were women and two were people of color. Barbara Smith, co-founder of Kitchen Table Women of Color Press, the only publisher for women of color in the United States, led off Saturday with a rousing oration. "This system which is racist capitalist patriarchy; I believe it has to go," though she added, "We need to work on reforms at the very same time we work on radical change."

"Does anyone in this room want to practice the kind of politics that leaves the rest of us hanging?" Regarding the "I hate straights" movement, Smith said, "If we take that as our model, as people of color, then I'll be wearing a button that says, 'I hate straights.'"

Sunday plenary speaker Dr. C.T. Vivian, chair of the Center for Democratic Renewal and a member of the board of directors of the Southern Christian Leadership

Conference, brought a message of hope. "At last we're moving towards each other in the way we should have been," said Vivian. "America has got to understand that racism and homophobia destroys more people than anything else in this society. If we don't include each other, they're not going to include us."

The conference also included 46 smaller workshop sessions, including a five-workshop "Campus Track" and workshops on issue organizing, legislation, movement building, organizational issues, political

questions, and skills building, led by lesbian and gay leaders from around the country. One of the special attractions Saturday evening was Roman Kalinin, founder of the Moscow Union of Gays and Lesbians and senior editor of "Tema," the gay *Pravda*, who spoke at the International Lesbian and the Gay Association Caucus.

Away from the conference hotel, Minneapolis beckoned with shopping, sightseeing, theater, restaurants, and a number of lesbian and gay bars including the Gay 90s, a multi-bar complex, and the Var-

sity, a converted theater in Dinkytown, which hosted an alcohol free movie night-dance fundraiser sponsored by Queer Nation. Hundreds of volunteers organized by the Gay and Lesbian Community Action Council of the Twin Cities assisted participants in finding their way around.

Popular feminist humorist (feminist) Kate Clinton performed Saturday evening and gave the closing address at the final plenary Monday afternoon. ▼

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ties will have to be established based upon the availability of resources.

LIFE lobby's Executive Director, Laurie McBride pledged to the group, "We are on the cutting edge of societal and health care reform and our mission is to represent gay men and lesbians in all our diversity." ▼

Counties'

continued from page 4

the spread of AIDS are not adequate and do not address the adolescent, pediatric and migrating populations.

3. It is probable that less than 50 percent of the people with HIV are currently identified and receiving treatment.

4. The four-county area compared to other urban centers (San Francisco, Los Angeles, New York) is in the early stages of the epidemic. The region will see proportionally greater numbers of women, drug abusers and persons of color who will become infected with HIV.

5. There are limited HIV-specific services in outlying areas. The most comprehensive and extensive HIV services are located in Sacramento County.

6. Case management, primary medical care and health education must be included in each local community's response to the epidemic.

7. The ability to fund inter-county services is not currently available.

8. Reduction of federal, state, county and private philanthropic dollars will seriously impact the availability of services in the next three years.

To receive a copy of the report call 916-443-3299 or 916-448-2437. ▼

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Laura "Lucky" Baker: The little things count

by Dell Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Boise, Idaho -- Unless they were into heavy butch-femme roles, most lesbians have been stuck buying cards with animals or whiting-out mustaches on males in order to make greetings fit their life.

That is until Laura "Lucky" Baker, 28, created her own line of eight lesbian greeting cards.

For this ex-greeting card copywriter, the seemingly unimportant things -- such as hundreds of heterosexual greeting cards in stores without a single gay one -- are what count.

Mounting up imperceptibly, the subtle, nearly unnoticeable slights create invisibility.

"It's the everyday things that really invalidate us," said Baker, who lives in Missouri and has been creating cartoon characters since the third grade.

That invisibility was what led Baker to quit her job in 1988 and spend three months designing cards which reflect the unique lesbian culture to which she belongs.

Baker's father had just died -- as had most of the aunts and uncles in the extended family which raised her.

"The deaths gave me a sense of urgency," said Baker. "I realized that what we have to lose by not doing what we want is enormous."

Until then, Baker had been designing traditional greeting cards for major card companies.

But she wanted to design lesbian cards that reflect the unique -- and recognizable -- culture lesbians have created in the past 20 years.

Even if it is a stereotype, much of lesbian culture reflects a holistic approach to life: an awareness of issues such as gender roles and androgyny, therapy and mental health, nutrition and physical health as well as the ecological health of the earth.

When Baker recently visited her gay cousin for the first time and was offered herbal tea to drink, the gesture epitomized the gentle, earth-oriented lesbian culture she wanted to capture in her work.

"When we see these cards, we know what this is about," said Baker. "We nudge each other and get the inside joke because we know that this is who we are."



The cards reflect this unique lesbian sensibility:

* Love -- Two women have just finished kissing. One says the classic line "Why don't you slip into something more comfortable?" to the other.

In the second frame, the woman has. She is not wearing lingerie but a sweat suit with ripped knee, big furry slippers and a headband.

Inside the card is the line: "Lesbians are the only ones who really mean that."

* Birthday -- Three lesbians are at a party.

The first says of the cone-shaped party hat: "I refuse to wear these phallic hats!"

* Housewarming -- two mice who have just moved into a new home. One is unpacking boxes that include the book "Rodent Sex."

The other pops her head in the door and says "Must be lesbians living here -- there's tofu in the mousetraps."

Baker feels that identifying and expressing a worldview common to most lesbians creates a tremendous source of pride.

For women who have to fight a constant battle with society even to be tolerated, being able to turn around and laugh at their divergence from the mainstream shows a newly-discovered level of self-acceptance.

"Being able to poke fun at ourselves -- in a self-loving way -- makes me feel proud of being a lesbian."

Baker created the characters in her line to fill a particular void: She wanted to see a lesbian counterpart to the endearing heterosexual characters found in Peanuts and Ziggy.

"I poured a lot of loveliness into my characters," said Baker. "And people respond to the sweetness of them."

This woman with a Master's degree in illustration from Washington University in St. Louis consciously and deliberately chose to make one of the most despised minorities in the nation seem lovable.

"I wanted us to be perceived as lovable."

To a great extent, she succeeded. The cards show a compassion toward lesbianism rarely seen before.

But although a radical non-profit organization dedicated to social change



Laura "Lucky" Baker

Photo by Anne McGuire

have to have our own bookstores even to buy cards."

When she began working on the

Working with Colette Panchot, she formed Pajama Party Press. Together with two lesbian investors, they raised \$7,000 to publish one of the first lines of lesbian greeting cards.

Eventually, Baker would like to see a variety of lesbian cards -- with everything from the sophisticated and serious to the bawdy and silly.

"There is lots of room for more," said Baker.

Baker also hopes the time will come when gays are so much of the mainstream that card companies will have lesbian and gay greetings as a matter of course.

"I'd like to see a day when Hallmark cards carries a lesbian line."

Jucie Fruit cards can be bought at local gay and women's bookstores or ordered from Syracuse Cultural Workers, Box 6367, Syracuse, NY 13217, 315-474-1132.

Dell Richards is a syndicated journalist whose "Lesbian Lists" is available nationwide.*

"I poured a lot of loveliness into my characters, and people respond to the sweetness of them."

The second says: "I think it should be called a re-birthday cake."

The third says: "I think you're both projecting."

The card opens to the words: "Have fun processing your birthday."

distributes them nationally, the cards have hit roadblocks.

Many mainstream bookstore owners have refused to carry the line of cards, using excuses that barely veil the homophobia.

"They say they don't want to offend their heterosexual clientele," said Baker.

"What they don't want to lose is the business of bigots."

According to Baker, even cartoon characters are expected to stay in the closet.

"Only heterosexual cartoon characters are allowed," said Baker. "We

Jucie Fruit line, Baker, too, was in the closet though she was creating alternative cards such as Hallmark's Shoe Box and Universal Press Syndicate's Busy Lizzy.

But crafting "alternative" cards that still were heterosexual struck her as extremely ironic.

"There I was writing cards day after day that I couldn't buy," said Baker.

Even though Busy Lizzy didn't have a sex preference, Baker felt that she was "being left out; my friends were being left out."

Rather than gripe about it, Baker acted.

Lesbian greeting cards taking off

by Dell Richards
OF MGW STAFF

Boise, Idaho -- Although gay men have had all-male greeting cards for years, only recently have lesbian greeting cards appeared on the market. Despite their delay in being born, cards directed at an all-female audience are taking off.

Besides Laura "Lucky" Baker's line of humorous cards, there is at least one other humor line by the inimitable Alison Bechdel.

Bechdel, whose strip cartoon "Dykes to Watch Out For" is featured in three book collections, 25 gay and lesbian newspapers nationwide and two alternative campus newspapers, also does an eight-card line of blank greeting cards.

The panels include ones typical of lesbian life: softball women, two women in bed with lots of cats, a play on astrology, and one called unorthodox sexual positions with one woman

saying to another:

"You want me to do what?"

Bechdel also has a four-card line of erotic pencil studies.

Although the number of humorous cards is growing, there still are more serious cards on the market.

Two of the best are by Jan Phillips of Syracuse, New York and Tee Corinne, of Portland, Oregon.

Phillips line of six cards named uses slick, full-color photographs of women in outdoor settings.

One shows a couple about to kiss; a second interracial couple leans affectionately against each other; and a third couple walks in the ocean at sunset.

Her cards also include a mother and daughter with matching T-shirts that say: "My mom's not gay and that's okay" plus "My daughter's a dyke and that's allright."

Photographs of a single woman naked in a river and a woman lifting her arms to a crescent moon complete

the collection.

Like Baker, Phillips' cards are carried by Syracuse Cultural Workers in Syracuse.

The artist, writer and photographer Tee Corinne also continues her well-known erotic tradition in a line of blank notecards.

The four-card line carried by Lincoln Legion of Lesbians reflects Corinne's all-inclusive sexual politics.

One erotic card features a woman in a wheelchair. Another shows a woman who would be considered overweight by heterosexual standards and a woman with glasses.

And these days, there are cards for every occasion.

Willow Moon Designs in Elkins, Arkansas has a 10 card-line with holiday greetings for solstice and Hanukkah as well as Christmas.

Another set of 10 also has Valentine cards and cards for everyday occasions.



holiday book guide

DESERT FABULOSO
LISA LOVENHEIM



Wonderful love story

reviewed by Laura Enright
OF MGW STAFF

Desert Fabuloso by Lisa Lovenheim; Plume, NAL Penguin Inc., 1633 Broadway, NY 10019, 1987, 269 pages, \$7.95.

Desert Fabuloso, first novel attempt by author Lisa Lovenheim is a bright and slightly witty attempt at portraying the intense love capable between men.

Set in a closely knit community in Santa Fe, New Mexico, *Desert Fabuloso* is about a romantic tug-of-war between two male lovers, both fully capable of winning in the ultimate battle of love.

Lisa Lovenheim, while being a woman, seems to have been able to present the reader with a beautiful story of the love felt by her male characters. If you ever wondered about your life, your loves or your relationship with your father, *Desert Fabuloso* may be a book for you. ▼

Worth the search!

reviewed by Maria Albin
OF MGW STAFF

Sacramento Waltz by Elva Williams, 1957, McGraw-Hill, \$12-\$16, hardcover.

Who says a book reviewer must always review new/recently published/never-before read books? Not me. I found a wonderful treasure in Midtown Books recently, and it's too good to just read and shelve. Obviously, if you like what I tell you about this book, the search may be a little difficult, but there must be a few copies buried in bookstores somewhere in Northern California.

This novel, centered in Sacra-



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mento from 1911-1922, with side trips to San Francisco and Paris, lets us watch three women-friends as they make their very individual ways through the best, and worst, of times. It is an absolute delight to read about a Sacramento unknown to me, when trolleys delivered shoppers downtown to K Street, when Trust's Candy Store was a big event for local kids, when Oak Park was a suburb with weekly evening dances, when every single neighbor knew and cared about the lives of their neighbors. They didn't necessarily approve but they did care.

The women; one a spinster piano teacher and Tarot-card reader; one soon to be widow, then mistress to a married man and finally his wife; and one fiercely independent wife of the neighborhood grocer and mother to a strange young man who spent most of his youth living in a tree in the backyard ... these are the women whose lives intermingle, collide, and somehow manage to move forward in time even as they march to different drummers.

Considering the era, and even conceding that there always have been independent women, women not defined by the men in their lives, it's tremendous fun to find three women so open to life and its adventures, as well as so willing to adjust their friendships as chance adjusts their personal circumstances.

Look at it this way: if you go hunting for this book among the dusty volumes in the back rooms of bookstores, you're very likely to find some jewel, and if you're very lucky, Sacramento Waltz will dance into your hands. ▼

What a cover!

reviewed by Maria Albin
OF MGW STAFF

Sacred Cows by Jed A. Bryan, 1989, Banned Books; \$8.95, paper.

What a romp! Most of the major characters/caricatures in this book are pictured, as it were, on the cover. After you've read this book, I guarantee just looking at the cover will crack you up.

Tony Hodkiss, a magazine writer, and his partner in crime, Arthur Hendrickson, a car dealer, camp their way from Salt Lake City to Atlantic City. Their goal: to make sure their favored candidates becomes Miss America. She certainly has what it takes; gorgeous looks, brains, talent. There's just a not small detail ... she's a he.

What happens during this quest for glory steamrolls over countless sacred bovines, flattening them beyond recognition and/or recovery. Don't miss the chance to enjoy this one! ▼



Fates worse than death

reviewed by Drew Herzig
OF MGW STAFF

Closer, by Dennis Cooper, Grove Weidenfeld, 1989, \$8.95.

There are eight chapters in this book, and seven main characters. Each character gets a chapter to himself except George, who gets two. By the last chapter, most of the characters have had sex with each other, and everyone has had George. As George muses, "Sex was distracting, even if who he'd be having it with was a bore."

At first I thought the themes of the book were sex and drugs, those staples of American pop culture. It's hard to find a page where some one is not either hallucinating on acid, sharing a joint, snorting cocaine, mentally/physically sodomizing another character, or any combination of the above. Scatophobia is also a recurrent theme. (Warning -- this book may literally nauseate you.)

But I was wrong -- the real theme is Death. A number of characters observe how corpse-like George is during sex. They consider it part of his appeal. One older man drugs George and mutilates him, with the intention of continuing until George is dead, sort of on the 'drawn and quartered' format. Somehow George survives, scarred but functioning. Finally one of the characters thinks he has fallen in love with George -- immediately after seeing a friend hit and killed by a car. "David's body is shredded like paper. His insides have pushed through some holes in his shirt, blue and greasy and jumbled."

A blurb on the back cover thrills, "Bleak and brilliant." The writing is brilliant. The vision is of the bleakest. Did I mention that all the main characters are high-school age? Is the new generation of gay men so devoted to its own destruction? Or is the author graphically expressing the soul-sickness of our society?

Back cover again: "Cooper taps the ineffable, the murky underside of sexual and human relations."

Hell is murky, said Lady Macbeth. She knew. ▼

Remarkable woman

reviewed by Maria Albin
OF MGW STAFF

Peggy Deery: An Irish Family at War by Nell McCafferty, 1989 Cleis Press; \$9.95 paper.

If it's true we all wish for only the best things in our lives, and if we are successful in our wishes, then where do the opposite of the best

things go? Are they behind Door #1? Door #2? Or perhaps Door #3? Are they lurking in the backyard, around the next corner? I think many of those "bad" things paid a visit to Peggy Deery in Northern Ireland and were so comfortable there, wreaking havoc, destroying lives, creating a very special hell, they called a gathering of kindred "spirits" and settled in for the long haul.

Peggy Deery bore 14 children in 15 years (and lost two others by miscarriage). They were not all born of love, but were fervently loved upon arrival. Peggy Deery was a familiar figure most evenings in the village of Deery, walking for hours at night with her 14 charges. Sometimes a neighbor would take them in for a short while, sometimes family would do the same. They all knew Peggy was doing what she had to do to escape an increasingly abusive and violent husband.

Once a vital, caring person, the cancer in his spine was literally eating him alive. Peggy and the children would slip back home only after the booze had knocked him out for the night.

After her husband's death in 1971 perhaps Peggy was relieved, but not for long. As the fighting between the IRA and the Unionists escalated, it no longer was a cute little game of who could throw the most rocks and bottles and hit their human targets. Peggy was severely maimed by a British Army bullet on Bloody Sunday in 1972. For the next 16 years she tried to bring dignity to her family, as she watched child after child lose their spirit, parts of their bodies, and ultimately their lives. Following the violent deaths of two of her sons, in 1986 and 1987, Peggy Deery surrendered and died in 1988, having lived many a tortured lifetime in 54 short years.

People have a way of being remarkably resilient when faced with adversities. Even the most extraordinary can only withstand the currents for very long. Peggy Deery swam upstream her whole life. It's horrifying to realize the political war in Ireland is creating a new generation who will live just as Peggy Deery, making her just an ordinary woman in an ordinary hell. ▼

First aid for troubled families

reviewed by Walter R. Gorksi
OF MGW STAFF

Beyond Acceptance: Parents of Lesbians and Gays Talk About Their Experiences by Carolyn Griffin and Marian and Arthur Wirth; St. Martin's, \$9.95.

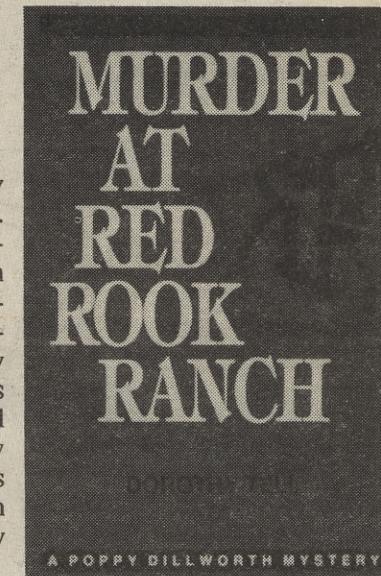
There is much useful information here, and more than a little comfort.



A Merry Little for the Ho

Beyond Acceptance is a collection of essays from the experience of 23 parents who found help through an organization called Parents and Friends of Lesbians and Gays (PFLAG).

Moving past the guilt and blame, both for parents and children, is the message of this book. Written in an easily understood manner and filled with personal examples, this book is a valuable tool. Rather than wishing for a quantum leap of raised familial consciousness, invest \$9.95 and send your folks this wonderful book. ▼



Great follow-up book

reviewed by Laura Enright
OF MGW STAFF

Murder At Red Rook Ranch by Dorothy Tell; The Naiad Press, Box 10543, Tallahassee, FL 32302, 1990, 200 pages, \$8.95.

Several months ago I reviewed a book entitled "Wilderness Trek." The book, by newly discovered author Dorothy Tell was excellent, and I really looked forward to her

MGW

MOM...GUESS WHAT!

MGW's Pull-Out Section

Happy Holidays!

MGW FLASH

by John Batchelor
OF MGW STAFF

(For phone numbers and details on events mentioned in this column, check the calendar and organization information in the back of the paper.)

FESTIVE attire is encouraged at the holiday celebration of the season. Join Mayor Anne Rudin, Councilmember

Heather Fargo and a host of other notables on December 8. Tickets for the party at 22nd & E streets are available at SAF or from the hosts

● The Sacramento Women's Chorus presents a Holiday concert at the Trinity Presbyterian Church in West Sacramento on December 7. Tickets are available at Lioness Books. Take some time out and enjoy the holidays with this special group

● And speaking of Lioness Books, stop by and see if

they may have something for someone on your Christmas list.

The store is filled with great gift ideas, even periodicals and t-

shirts. It's always a must browse for me

● The Sacramento Men's Chorus and special guests The Golden Gate Men's Chorus invite you to the sixth annual Winter Concert Series on

December 14 & 15. The event, at the First United Methodist

Church, is always a crowd pleaser

● When in San Francisco, do visit Under One Roof a gift shop on Market near Castro. It shares the NAMES Project building. All proceeds from sales directly benefit AIDS organizations, including the Sacramento AIDS Foundation, that produced or sponsored product items

● A hearty welcome to fellow writer, Hal Griffith. (aka Vannah Woolsey-What) Hal will be sharing his view of the world, including extensive court news in every issue of MGW

● Former MGW Managing Editor Jim Walker is in the news again. It seems he should have taken my advice and bought a VW bug.

His poor 1990 Acura has been stolen, vandalized, repaired and most recently involved in a minor accident with a man who ran out in front of him. It's time to dwell on some positive karma! Or

better yet buy a Regional Transit pass. In any case, we are happy that all the folks involved

sustained fewer injuries than your car

● Andy Peabody is organizing a progressive potluck dinner for the Oak Park neighborhood and its friends. As a result we

can enjoy several homes all dressed in holiday attire. December 9 is the date. Call ahead (451-1252) to coordinate your "dish."

● Robin Skalsky apparently

knows how to let his hair (and pants) down when he gets out of town. On a recent visit to Club St. John in San Jose, Robin pulled out all the stops and entered a stripping contest. He claims it was a spur of the moment impulse but we were surprised to learn that he was wearing a g-string under his clothing.

Hmmmm? ● Music by Joey is hosting a "Jingle Bell Jam" dance on December 8. Usher in the holiday season at the Shangri-La on Mack Road. And many thanks for a great Halloween dance

● Mark your calendars for the Lambda Players Night of One-Acts. The show runs on Saturdays and Sundays through December 16. These shows at the Lambda Center are a positive step for our community. They have always been very entertaining. Call and make your reservations today

● Healthy Living continues at SAF with many worthwhile forums

● Healthwatch: Update on HIV Treatments with Neil Flynn, M.D. is sure to be a full house on December 6

● The Future of SAF Services on December 7 will hopefully

answer many of your questions.

And one area often not addressed

is The Psychological Impact of

AIDS on Uninfected Gay and

Bisexual Men. This presentation

takes place on December 10. Call the Sacramento AIDS Foundation for more details on these and other programs. And don't forget the Buddy Connection/90, safe sex workshop on December 3

● With the holidays ever so near,

all the taverns in town are

There is lots planned for December The Town House is expanding their restaurant services with "Party Trays to Go." This is sure to be a success. I have sampled their delectables at many charity events. And stay tuned for all their December



One of the many booths at the Environmental Fair. See related story on page 6. Photo by Betty Garcia

preparing for many festive get-togethers Faces presents their third annual "Disney Country Christmas Party" on December 26. This party is always delightful. There will be an incredible complimentary buffet. Formal attire is requested The recent Mr. Leather Sacramento Contest at Joseph's Town & Country (JTC) was a huge success. Everyone was there including Michael Madden who wore a shocking pink t-shirt. He certainly stood out in the sea of black leather surrounding him. Do check out JTC's "Late Knights" menu (until 3am!) Thursday through Saturday. And finally, plan to spend Christmas eve at JTC. Make reservations for a special ham dinner The Buffalo Club is rockin' and rollin' and even country two-steppin' on Thursday nights. Bartender Pam and new assistant Terry send holiday wishes to you. There is also entertainment and a restaurant in the works. Stay tuned The Mercantile will undoubtedly have several special events for the holidays. Please support them in all their charity drives The Wreck Room also benefited from the Mr. Leather contest. The place was jam-packed. They put together a nice buffet on Thanksgiving eve.

events

● Now on to the other columnist Louella. (aka Dan Palomino) Even though I ignored her last time, she hasn't gone away. Lashing out at everyone that stands in her way. All writers have a slant but Louella's reporting was sideways last month. We must be careful not to allow "loved" ones to sway our journalistic integrity. And while it's true that your honey won 1st place at Faces in the "Wizard of Oz" category. Stephen Crow did in fact win 1st place in the "Best Overall" category, winning an identical amount of prize money. (\$150) Such unwarranted abuse of local celebrities has got to stop. On a more serious note, it's great to see you back in the writing business

● For some fun, toe tapping holiday entertainment, check out Crazy Rhythms at Garbeau's Dinner Theatre.

Robert Irvin is the mastermind behind this production

● Happy December Birthdays to LA reader

and activist/friend Vernon

Mitchell, Michael Dennis, Doug

Garrett, Mark Fisher, Dr.

Nancy Weagley, Dr. Carol

Havens, Tim Kelleher, and

Mary Kennedy. Until mid-

December keep those cards and

letters coming. Happy Holidays!

.... John▼



Bittersweet by Charles Hauer



Empire

continued from page 2d

and the Lord Baron, Tom, is trying some new and innovative ideas. Again, this event was well and properly organized -- it passed a casual, drop-in inspection by the Redding Police. No minors, no brawling drunks and no uninhibited sexual activities in every nook and cranny, just a fun time for everyone. With the Empress and KC emceeing the first half of the show, there were some wild doings on stage. Emperor XVI Paul continued the craziness with the second half. After the event, a group went on a bar tour. First stop was the Redding Lounge and then out to the Club Alpine. Redding has lots of fun and friendly people -- when you visit say hello to Aunt Betty!

The next day was a Thanksgiving buffet at RJ's in the Czaristic Province of Chico. The court supplied a fabulous array of traditional goodies for the community to enjoy. There were many surprised and pleased people when they found out the repast was free. That night Claudette de Versailles put on a fabulous show of quite diverse talent. Lip-sync (although not Milli Vanilli), a live singer and a jazz combo entertained to a packed house. The production numbers proved that Claudette put some of Chico's cutest men through many hours of grueling, torturous rehearsal. What a mental image, Claudette with a whip!

Just because the Empress was touring the empire doesn't mean that the capitol was quiet. Grand Duke Gene put on a great show -- "Sisters ... in the Name of Love." The crowd at JTC was festive and pleased with the entertainment for the evening. The donation asked for was either non-perishable food items or cash. Apparently no one could get to the store, but the Duke and Duchess will be sending the Sacramento Food Closet \$140 to help with their holiday baskets.

Check those dates

Remember, we're doing it again ... Cafe Vannah on Sunday, December 2 at the sensible hour of 9am. For \$5 you get a great breakfast buffet prepared by Vern and will help out the Sacramento AIDS Foundation.

Friday, December 7, Empress XVI Stacey is sponsoring a Teddy Bear Party for PWAs at 8pm. Bring a Teddy or donate \$3 (or both, it's the holidays) to Faces.

Sunday, December 9, the court wants to wish everyone Happy Holidays by throwing a party. A light buffet and a show featuring out-of-town performers awaits the public upstairs at the Town House at 7pm. And it's free, not a fund-raiser, simply a thank you for your continued support.

Santa and Ms. Claus will be at Faces on Thursday, December 13 with their second annual Christmas Show at 7pm. Your \$3 donation will help buy presents for PWAs.

So rearrange your social schedule a little so you can have lots of fun and help to make the holidays special for everyone!!!▼

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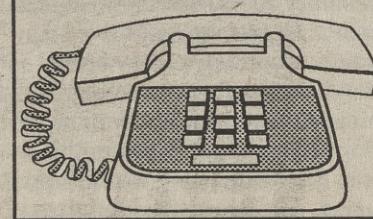
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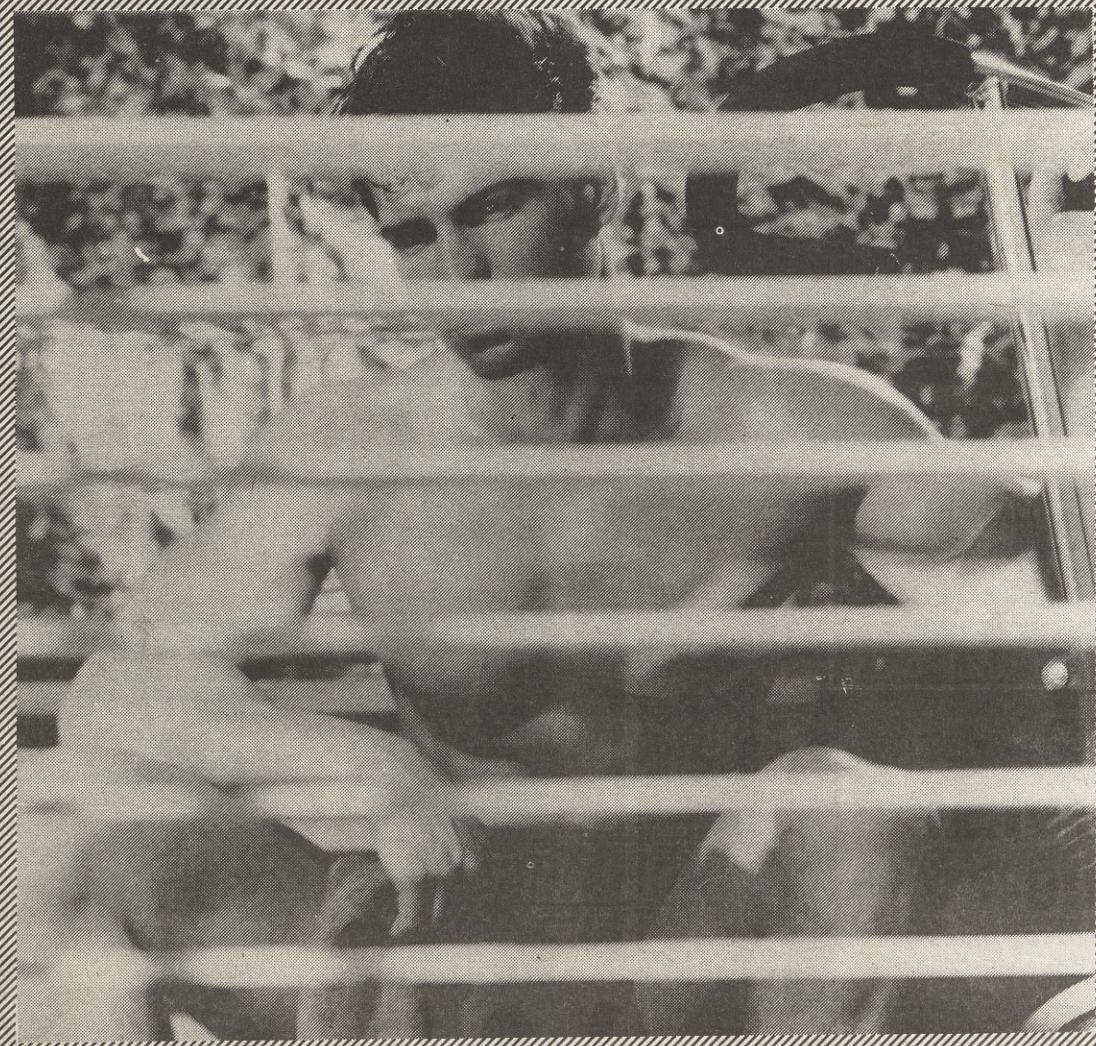
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holiday book guide

and confidante, advising Williams on his attempts to write and produce a few last plays which would restore the faith of Williams followers and the critics of Chicago and New York Theater.

The book is truly fascinating. With arguably the finest playwright of the 20th Century as the subject, it would be hard not to be fascinating. It gives us, voyeurs that we are, an insider's glimpse of Williams' many lives in Chicago, New York and Key West.

The problems I have with this book are much more instinctive than factual. The author quotes conversations over a three year period with the authority which comes from tape-recordings. Yet we should assume these intimate conversations are only recollections. I'm a little skeptical of Mr. Smith's amazing memory. In addition, Smith has a remarkable talent for removing himself from any of Williams' activities

involving sex, drugs or parasitic hangers-on. Smith could have indeed been "above it all," just a principled observer concerned only with Williams' health and well-being. The book, however, feels just a little too slick to me, particularly those events involving Smith. Maybe his P.R. talents have finally found their niche.

In any case, read the book. If it does nothing else, I hope it will spur you to read the works of Tennessee Williams. Your insight on the real Williams will come from those plays. ▼

Hope for the Age of AIDS

reviewed by Walter R. Gorski
OF MGW STAFF

Pathways to Wellness: Strategies for Self Empowerment in the Age of AIDS by Paul Kent Froman, Ph.D.; Plume, \$10.95.

In Memory of Angel Clare by Christopher Bram; Plume, \$9.95.

If control of your life (and the lack of it) is on your mind these days, consider these two books. *Pathways to Wellness* outlines a comprehensive guide for leading a healthy mental, spiritual and even physical life. Psychologist Paul Kent Froman has distilled his experiences in working with persons with AIDS and the worried well in to some useful suggestions, exercises and advice.

In Memory of Angel Clare is a novel of an AIDS widower, working through his mixed and very poignant relationships with his deceased lover's friends. About holy anger, and ways of letting go and remembering, this Lambda Literary Award finalist provides an unexpected and yet most welcome healing. ▼



Good, better, best

reviewed by Walter R. Gorski
OF MGW STAFF

Castro Street Memories by N.A. Diaman; Persona Press, Box 14022, San Francisco 94114, \$14.95.

Finale: Short Stories of Mystery & Suspense edited by Michael Nava; Alyson, \$8.95.

When the Parrot Boy Sings by John Champagne; Meadowlands Press, Lyle Stuart, \$12.95.

Memories of a time, place and circumstance (the 70s, San Francisco's Castro District and mythic gay life) are the topics of an interesting novel by N.A. Diaman. If you enjoy novels of transformation, this one's for you.

While the authors of the stories in Michael Nava's collection are lesbian or gay, to call this a lesbian or gay mystery collection misses the point. There is a depth of style and substance here that made this reviewer rue the truncated form of these stories. An anthology of each, Please!

When the Parrot Boy Sings is the story of a three person relationship. John Champagne manages to shock, warm and enlighten by turns. It's a minor great, and not easily forgotten. ▼

Strangely enjoyable

reviewed by Laura Enright
OF MGW STAFF

Horse And Other Stories by Bo Houston; Amethyst Press, Inc., 462 Broadway, #4000, NY 10013, 1989, 156 pages, \$8.95.

Horse And Other Stories, is a collection of somewhat depressing short stories meant to show the sides of gay life that aren't always shown in the love and happiness hyped books that tend to dominate the gay retail marketplace.

Author Bo Houston has succeeded in creating a group of characters who do not fall prey to the same type of everyday mainstream ideologies that are presented in many of the books on the shelves today. Instead Houston has presented a collection of stories that are contemporary in part and are meant to relay a gay experience that is somewhat shadowed and perhaps overlooked by most of us in our need for positive and egotistically healthy reinforcements. Gay experiences that many of us would prefer not to read about, but need to know about.

Horse And Other Stories is a

strangely enjoyable collection of stories, or prose if you prefer. While Houston's writings did not succeed in leaving me in an upbeat or happy frame of mind, it did leave me thinking, and that is a major achievement for any author. ▼



Christmas in the desert!

reviewed by Michael McGinnis
OF MGW STAFF

Desert Patrol; Bruno Gmunder, Inland Book Co., 254 Bradley St., East Haven, CT 06512.

If you like books full of big dicks and lusty men, this one isn't for you. BUT, if you're into lusty fantasy and sensual photography, this is it. *Desert Patrol*, by photographer Dook, follows two groups of three men, one out for a photo shoot, the other on patrol, through the desert until they meet at a refreshing pool. The action takes place mostly au naturel, stripping the pretense off the men as easily as their boots. There is plenty of stretching and lounging and (my favorite) bathing, all done luxuriously, and photographed the same way.

This book reminded me of *Shore Leave* by Andrew Kennedy. Like that book, *Desert Patrol*, builds a framework for fantasy, a sort of story board - only this time the sequences are in rich black and white instead of rough marker sketches. The only fault I found with this book was that I had to "get to know" the men so they didn't all look the same. Aside from the one blond, everyone had the same build, no tan lines and similar hair. But getting to know them was the fun part. ▼

Fight your man for this one!

reviewed by Michael McGinnis
OF MGW STAFF

Fox Studio Calendar, \$10.

Let me tell you right away, this is not an Ansel Adams calendar you could give to your mom for Christmas. Unless, of course, she was hip, divorced and horny. Or even just horny. No black and white landscapes, no subtle grays, just full color bodies. Every month has a new face and a different state of arousal. Not all the men are pretty, a few are a little rough, with pretty parts. But each one has his own look. My favorite look was April, but you'll see when you get there. If mom doesn't want this calendar, just keep it. ▼

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Whyscracking feminist humor

by Joyce Beaz
OF MGW STAFF

The Kate Clinton show at the Crest Theatre on November 2 was a fun and humorous and extravaganza for all. Clinton stepped out on stage following a "Betty Boop" cartoon and captured her audience immediately with her winning feminist-oriented comedy. She opened the show thanking the audience for all "coming out" to see her, and judged from the applause following her pun that she would not have to "edit" her material for this group. She employed her powers of political satire to address such issues as "outing", the Persian Gulf Crisis ("a newsman's wet dream"), homophobia, and suggested an interesting "12-step" approach to the budget deficit problem.

Clinton's delivery is as smooth as her wit is sharp. No one is immune from being her target. With a sublime grin, she pokes fun at George Bush (possibly a latent homosexual -- he sure is into those "mandates") and wife Barbara (doesn't she look like a blue blood faggot), recovering Catholics, therapists, and lesbian softball teams who are "more into process than competition." Clinton offers some rather unique solutions to some of our social and political problems, as well. My personal favorite of these suggestions is "Shop for Peace" -- a cross-country tour of activist shoppers employing "mall diplomacy" for world peace. Her solution to low voter turn-out of a "1-900" number for voters (ie, "1-900-NO HELMS") sounds quite innovative as well.

Not that Clinton's material addressed only social and political issues: some of her funniest material was the personal which we could all relate to. "Bun-flosser" swimsuits, for example, were also tar-



Kate Clinton at the Crest Theater. Photo by Joyce Beaz

geted. One of the biggest laughs came from Clinton's explanation of why she likes women who wear contact lenses (ie, "You can get up in the morning with your big butt flying and they can't see a thing!").

My only disappointment with Kate Clinton's performance is that she did not interact more with the audience. The audience was ripe, and

creating some "audience participation" and spontaneous humor could have only added to the show. Clinton's wit and "whyscracking" are enough in themselves, however, to have made this an enjoyable evening for all. As Kate said in her closing, "Don't genderfy your souls in the 90's -- be bold and be bad!" ▼

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Cris Williamson, 15 years later: Changer and changed

by Peg Wolf
OF MGW STAFF

On November 10, Cris Williamson celebrated the 15th anniversary of her album, *The Changer and the Changed*. This album has sold more copies than any other piece of women's music. With her wit and charm Cris won the heart of her devoted fans who filled Zellerbach Auditorium in Berkeley.

The audience gave Cris a standing ovation as she walked on stage. Perhaps she is the most popular musician in the women's community. Cris still retains the bell-like clarity of her voice, even in middle-age. The deep spirituality and quality



Chris then...

of love in her music is lasting.

This was a night for nostalgia. Cris's gray hair and the silver in the audience speak of the passing of time for a generation of lesbian feminists who have spent the last 20 years establishing a position for women in American culture. When Cris first performed we searching for the expression of the heartfelt yearning for a Circle of Friends and the Wildfire we experienced for the Sweet Woman we loved. Audiences of lesbians wept, held hands, cheered, swayed and sang along. Women sported T-shirts with feminist slogans. At this concert lesbian dress was subdued, generally dark, and haircuts were the kind to go unnoticed. There are no tears in 1990, no hand-holding and just a little individual swaying and humming to the familiar ballads. Cris asked the audience to stop clapping as she began singing from the *Changer* album.

For the first set, Cris sang her early music as well as music by James Taylor, Van Morrison, and Eric Anderson. These musicians strongly influenced her work. The

audience quietly accepted and applauded her renditions of these artists. Years ago, no work ~~was~~ men was tolerated in "women's space", no matter how lovely.

A new feature was the video crew with large rolling cameras, filming the concert. Since they were on-stage, they blocked the view for orchestra seating on the far right and left. Voices were raised in opposition several times. Cris apologized, and asked "Are you through?" before beginning. Fifteen years ago, I think the concert would've been stopped until proper seating arranged.

At early women's concerts, tickets were a sliding scale, \$5 to \$8. These were \$35 to \$18, based on standard seating. Olivia Records plugged their Caribbean cruise. Cris, in-between songs, mentioned that we have found our place, whereas years ago we had none. Introducing her number, "It hurts like the devil", Cris stated she's amazed at the pain she felt when she wrote it but we live long enough to be amused by our own lives.

It was a bittersweet experience. The dynamic power of women's music in 1975, performer reflecting the real forces in women's lives was gone. The caucasian middle-class and comfortable lesbians, retired warriors, can reflect and enjoy the fruits of their struggle. But the streets of Berkeley are dirtier. Nothing much has changed for minority women. There are more



...and now

Irene Young

homeless women than ever in American history. Women are violently beaten every eight seconds. Rape is increasing. The government is readying for war. We can't afford to get too comfortable in our seats with the music of the past. ▼

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Johann Strauss on the river and by the bay

by Wayne R. Anderson
OF MGW STAFF

To modern audiences, Johann Strauss, Jr. is a musical lightweight, known mostly for his lilting waltzes and operetta *Die Fledermaus*. Yet in his time, he was immensely popular with the musical public as well as with other composers. The extent of this popularity is nearly incomprehensible to us, especially before the era of high-tech PR machines. Yet in 1872, two years before he wrote *Die Fledermaus*, Strauss conducted a series of 14 concerts in Boston, each before an audience of over 100 thousand people, and was paid the astounding sum of \$100,000, many millions of 1990 dollars. I doubt that Madonna could duplicate such a feat today.

This fall Northern Californians had the chance to see Strauss' two most popular operettas, *Die Fledermaus* in San Francisco and *The Gypsy Baron* in Sacramento. Listening to these works helps explain part of the composer's popularity. Not only do they gush with melody, but the demanding arias make an exciting musical effect because they were written for true operatic voices, which must have been plentiful in musical Vienna of the 1800s. These are not the simply little tunes sung by watered-down would-be opera singers, so prevalent in American musicals. And, these works are pure entertainment. There is no "message" in them, although they do wind up telling us a great deal about contemporary European mores.

The Gypsy Baron in Sacramento

On November 16, the Sacramento Opera unveiled its own production of *The Gypsy Baron*. Set in the exotic gypsy country of Hungary, it is tuneful but fluffy stuff. Barinkay, a young Hungarian adventurer, coming to settle down on his land, proposes to marry Arsena, the daughter of his rich neighbor Zsupan the pig farmer. She haughtily rejects him unless he is a baron, so he marries gypsy-style (they shack up) Saffi, the daughter of the gypsy Czipra. This being operetta, Czipra dreams that a great fortune is hidden in the ruined castle, and so it is; she also reveals that Saffi is not really her daughter, but the child of the last Pasha of Hungary and hence a princess, and everyone believes her. Barinkay goes off to war in Spain, comes back a great hero for which he is made a baron, but rejects Arsena and marries Saffi real-style. Light stuff, to be sure, yet the scene in which the men describe the glories of war took on a darker hue in light of our sabre-rattling in the Middle East.

The SOA production had some real strengths, but it could have used more life somewhere. The singers all worked hard, but somehow the whole thing didn't quite hang together. ("Small-town" kept running through the back of my mind.) Yet it was a pleasant enough evening in the theater. Jeffrey Francis as Barinkay acted and sang very well. His tenor is small but very smooth and musical. Leslie Morgan's large soprano filled out beautifully her gypsy-style music, and she really looked like a princess. Mezzosoprano Isola Jones (Czipra) from the Metropolitan Opera, sang loudly all the time, which grew monotonous. Tenor Ross Halper as pig farmer Zsupan was "lovable" but had little

voice. This must run in the "family" because Rosemary Bollin as his daughter Arsena sounded shrill and forced. The others, Kathleen Hanson (Mirella), Bill Saetre (Otokar), Howard Bender (Homonay), and Dennis Leach (Carnero), all sang and acted well. Conductor Monroe Kanouse could have brought more life to the score, but the chorus turned in its usual excellent performance. The costumes were pleasing, but the sets, built locally, were outstanding. They were brightly lit with painted backdrops and elaborate three-dimensional foreground buildings and ruins. The performance was spoken in English and sung in German with supertitles, making it easy to follow the action. But the supertitles were too small for my taste.

One more SOA production remains: The Tales of Hoffman on March 1, 3, and 4. Call 442-7827 to charge tickets or 449-5181 for information. ▼

Die Fledermaus in San Francisco

The lavish San Francisco Opera production of this most popular operetta in the world was delightful in just about every way. The cast used wit rather than slapstick to bring out the subtleties of the piece and make the



Soprano Barbara Kilduff is Adele in *Die Fledermaus*, by Johann Strauss, Jr. Photo by Larry Merkle

characters live. Julius Rudel did the same thing from the orchestra pit. One stand-out was Barbara Kilduff as Adele. Her ravishing soprano projected like finely-cut crystal through the house. As Rosalinda, Elizabeth Holleque's large dramatic voice contrasted wonderfully with that of her maid Adele, and Hanna Schwarz's rich mezzo and deadpan face were a treat as Prince Orlofsky. Theodore Baerg was a humorous Eisenstein, but his voice needed more heft. As the tenor Alfred, Jorge Lopez-Yanez's voice was a bit small-scale and whiney, making one wonder why Rosalinda was so entranced with his singing. As the drunken jailer Frosch, LaughIn's Arte Johnson was thankfully restrained, but drunk-humor seems to be an artifact of the past that we might lay to rest.

The Lotfi Mansouri production was beautiful to look at, with its intricate sets and gorgeous costumes. The performance was sung in English, which worked well for the spoken dialogue, but I could barely understand a word of the singing. Supertitles would have helped.

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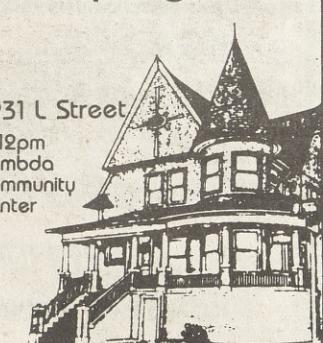
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MGW ENTERTAINMENT

Hollywood rights some wrongs in *Dances with Wolves*

by Matthew Kennedy
OF MGW STAFF

There is genuine movie magic in *Dances With Wolves*, the impressive directorial debut for Kevin Costner.

Costner also stars as Lieutenant John J. Dunbar, a Civil War soldier who gets stationed at an abandoned outpost in the Dakota territory. It is there that he makes contact with the Sioux and ultimately assimilates his life into theirs. As the white men arrive to claim the west as their own, they regard Dunbar as a traitor. In the film's final moments, Dunbar makes the most difficult decision of his life in his ceaseless quest for self-discovery.

American films have been shamefully negligent at depicting westward expansion of white settlers from the native point of view and *Dances With Wolves* represents the most detailed commitment to a Native American tribe ever seen in a big budget movie. The Lakota-Sioux language is spoken with subtitles and the costumes, sets, props, social life and customs were extensively researched. Dozens of Sioux and other Native Americans were employed as principal characters and extras. It is a joy to see this commitment to authenticity in commercial entertainment.

Dances With Wolves is filled with fine liberal values while wrapped in the conventional trappings of a romantic Hollywood epic. But the traditional roles are reversed.



Graham Greene as Kicking Bird in *Dances with Wolves*. Photo by Greg Gorman

Screenwriter Michael Blake, who also wrote the book *Dances With Wolves*, and Costner make the white men bad guys while the Sioux are noble, fierce and proud. It is this reducing of people too good or evil that weaken the movie considerably. Apart from Dunbar and Stands With A Fist, the white girl who is adopted by the tribe, all of the white characters are foolish, cowardly, insane, blood thirsty and/or slow-witted. More well-rounded characterizations could have been made while keeping the sympathy firmly with the Sioux.

Costner's character is a bit too easy to digest. He seems contemporary in his manner and language, and he is squeaky clean morally. He lacks any of the dark and enigmatic qualities that made fascinating heroes out of T.E. Lawrence in *Lawrence of Arabia*, Margo Channing in *All About Eve*, Ratsko Rizzo in *Midnight Cowboy* or even last year's Miss Daisy. There is a reticence here to show anyone but the heartless expansionists as human beings with flaws.

Still, *Dances With Wolves* is masterfully done. The South Dakota landscape is, to trot out a tired word, breathtaking. The buffalo hunt ranks as one of the most stirring sequences in many years.

Several actors should see their careers rise precipitously with this movie. Mary McDonnell is effective as Stands With A Fist, though her character is a thinly veiled device to provide translations and romance. Rodney Grant, as the warrior Wind In His Hair, has a commanding presence that could bring him movie stardom. Graham Greene is fine, too, as the wise Kicking Bird. When Dunbar tells him of the impending invasion by white settlers, the enormous weight of the news is etched finely in his eloquent face.

Dances With Wolves tells of the west not as a harsh frontier conquered, but as a sacred home lost. The Sioux remind us that the human family is one. When a people are destroyed, a corner of humanity's heart goes with them. ▼



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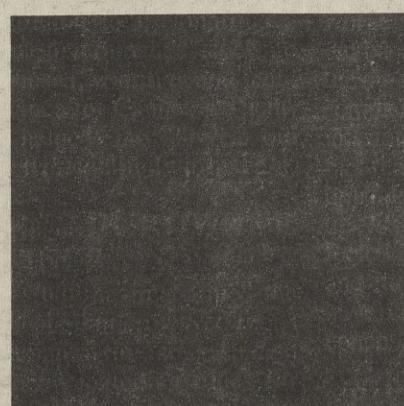
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Crocker Art Museum observes A Day Without Art For AIDS



The Crocker Art Museum will participate with museums, galleries and visual arts organizations nationwide in observance of A Day Without Art for AIDS, December 1, by featuring The Conjuror's Power of Suggestion by Carlos Almaraz and Three Musicians by Kevin Adams in the Friedman Gallery of the Crocker Art Museum from November 30 through December 8.

Almaraz was a leading Chicano painter who achieved national prominence in the early 1970s as a member of Los Four, a group of Southern California artists who created powerful images inspired by the popular art and graffiti of the Latino community in East Los Angeles. The Conjuror's Power of Suggestion (1972) was purchased by the Museum from an exhibition organized by the Los Angeles County Museum of Art. An early work by Almaraz, it is characteristic of his ongoing interest in objects drawn from everyday experience presented in a mysterious context. Almaraz died of complications from AIDS December 1989, at the age of 48.

A native of Los Angeles, Kevin Adams moved to Sacramento after completing graduate work at Tulane University, New Orleans. He participated in numerous exhibitions in this area prior to moving to New York in 1981, and earned recognition for his expressionistic figurative paintings. The Musicians is a densely-painted image that demonstrates Adams' interest in the art of Max Beckmann, and the importance music held for him. Noted for his energy and dedication to his work, Adams returned to Sacramento in 1986, and died of an illness related to AIDS the following spring.

The Museum is at the corner of 3rd and O streets. Hours are Tuesday-Sunday, 10am-5pm; Thursday evenings until 9pm; and closed Monday. Admission to the museum is \$2.50 for adults, \$1 for 7-17; 6 and under are free. For information, call 449-5423. ▼

Advance from new book donated to AmFAR

The writers of "thirtysomething" and MGM/UA Television have donated the advance for their upcoming book, *thirtysomething stories*, to AmFAR. The book is a collection of scripts from the first three seasons of the award-winning program. *thirtysomething stories* will be illustrated with photos from each episode, and each script will be introduced by the individual writer.

"We all wanted to do something unique with this book -- to celebrate both the writing and the characters of the show," said Richard Kramer, the show's producer and

one of its writer/directors. "We are happy to be supporting AmFAR's significant efforts to fight AIDS," he said.

Now in its fourth season on ABC-TV, "thirtysomething" has won numerous awards and honors, including Writers Guild Awards, Directors Guild Awards, Golden Globe Awards, the Humanitas Prize, 34 Emmy nominations and 10 Emmy awards, including the Emmy for Outstanding Drama Series. ▼

Women's Chorus presents "Holiday Affaire"

The Sacramento Women's Chorus is kicking off their performance season with a symposium of musical events. Starting off the season is the "Holiday Affaire" concerts to be held Friday, December 7 at 8pm at the Trinity Presbyterian Church, 1500 Park Avenue in West Sacramento and Saturday, December 8 at 8pm at St. Paul's Methodist Church in Vacaville. Tickets for both concerts are available at Lioness Books and at the door. Price per admission is \$5. The chorus is currently seeking singing and non-singing members, any persons interested call 429-7155 and leave a message.

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Knowing is mind; Being is matter

by Kate M. Lang, M.S.
OF MGW STAFF

One of the hallmarks of the transpersonal experience is the transcendence of time/space; when a person has a precognitive experience, an out-of-the-body experience; a clairvoyant, telepathic, psychokinetic experience—that is a transpersonal experience that may require transpersonal counseling. Remote viewing happens when you can sense with ESP what is going on at a point distant from the location of your own physical body. This "point" is a time/space place; it could be in the next room, county, distant state, county or nation. If whatever you see/sense is happening at the same time you perceive it you are experiencing clairvoyance.

One of the psychic services I offer besides in-person counseling, is consultation by telephone; this entails "giving a reading" to someone who may be calling me from Alaska, Mexico, or some other state in the USA, or to someone from another country. I'm often as amazed as my clients at this ability which we human beings have, to have ourminds "skip over" the telephone lines! Distance is immaterial.

Clairevoyance comes from a French word which means clear-seeing; it is the extrasensory perception of objective events, people, and places which you "see". Clairevoyance is distinguished from the telepathic perception of the mental state of another person. Telepathy is an ESP response to the mental state, mental activity or mental content of some other person or animal.

I remember in the late seventies I had planned to go to the Sierra Writer's Camp in gold country and I got a call from California State University, Sacramento. A representative from an organization called "People to People" called me and asked if two ladies from Gabon in French West Africa could come visit with me and observe me "at work." I told the lady where I was going to be and she said that these two visitors from Gabon would also love to see the gold country. Shelia White, an anthropologist from the University of California, Berkeley, and another anthropologist and her husband from American River College brought these people up to the writer's camp in the Sierras where we had a fascinating visit.

Marisse Isambe' spoke French; a lovely Ethiopian woman with a soft low voice. I got into a trance state to access psychic information, and I reported what I saw/heard/tasted/smelled and

"knew". I spoke in English, Shelia White translated it into French and then translated the confirmations and comments from Marisse and her friend back into English.

One of the things I said about Marisse was that I saw her having something to do with mass education in her country. She shook her head "no" and spoke to Shelia, who stated that Marisse was an attorney in Gabon. This was the only thing I had told her that seemed to be incorrect.

As the delightful evening wore on, Marisse, with Shelia translating, told us that when she had been a little girl in Africa, she was very psychic, and said some things at about four or five years of age about her father in a family gathering. Though true, these comments were extremely embarrassing for the father. He took Marisse to his sister, who was a member of a woman's secret society. There, a ritual ceremony was performed, and four small shallow slashes about two inches wide in a parallel pattern were cut into her wrist.

As Marisse continued speaking in French, she got up and came over to show us the now faint scars she had received as a small girl. What was so very interesting to me was that the literal African translation for this ritual ceremony was "closing the head." Further, I was extremely intrigued with the personal discovery that I didn't have to speak another language to use telepathy and clairvoyance with a person from another country. Eureka! This single event began the foundation of my conviction that psychic (or Psi) perception has preceded language in human communication. I did need a translator, however!

About a year later, on May 9th, Mother's Day, my husband answered the phone and told me it was a call from Shelia White in New York! I picked the phone up with great curiosity. Marisse and Shelia wanted to fly me to John F. Kennedy Airport to give Marisse another session! I was surprised to say the least! The government in Gabon had been overthrown; Marisse had been named Minister

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by M.R. Richards
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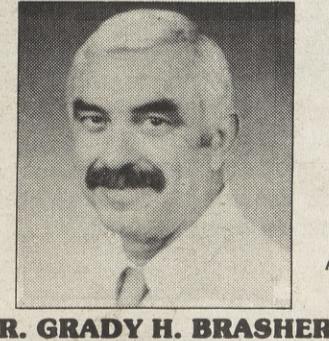
of Education! Though I would have loved the trip, I really didn't need to take it and explained that I could do this by phone consultation.

Dr. Charles Tart stated in 1979, "...the basic findings of parapsychology, conducted with high quality scientific methodology, have shown that the mind can gather information and have effects on both the physical world and other minds when there is no mediation by known physical factors. Thus I believe that in the long run, parapsychology will provide a basic and fundamental underpinning to transpersonal psychology, in the same way that physics is a basic science underlying engineering. We all know, of course, that parapsychology has not been generally accepted among orthodox scientists, but that is an emotional matter, not a scientific one, and the situation is changing in positive ways."

The April, 1990 "Brain-Mind Bulletin" reported an exciting conclusion by two Princeton University scientists, Dean Radin and Roger Nelson. They said after doing a rigorous review and evaluation of 832 Random Number Generator computer studies (RNG's), that they found no comprehensible methodological factors, to account for the powerful effect observed over the years of subjects' successful ability to influence the patterns of RNG's.

KATE LANG: B.A. Parapsychology, M.S. Transpersonal Counseling Psychology, Credentialed in Parapsychology since 1971. Sacramento, County Licensed Counseling Parapsychologist since 1975. Consultation in-person or by phone. Gift certificates available. Private practice. (916) 487 8485.▼

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favor of homosexuality."

He then went on to complain that more red tape had been put in the way of his group getting a permit than had been the case for "pro-homosexual" groups.

Reports in the *Sacramento Union* went on to point out Mayor Anne Rudin's support for the "homosexual flag to be flown," erroneously reporting that she did so after Governor George Deukmejian had ordered it removed from the Capitol dome. In fact, arrangements had been made for the Rainbow Flag to be flown in both sites for Coming Out Day, Oct. 12.

Welch said he may be planning a larger protest in the spring and will plan to hold it on a weekend so that more people would attend.▼

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MGW CRUISE IT!

Some auto makers miss out on a good thing

by Raoul Anthony Renaud
OF MGW STAFF

Sacramento does so many things well: on a smaller scale than the big cities, perhaps, but always with enthusiasm and a sense of style.

Take, for example, the Greater Sacramento International Auto Show, held November 8-12 at Cal Expo. No, it wasn't as big as the auto shows held annually in San Francisco at Thanksgiving or in Los Angeles at New Year's. Conspicuous by their absence were Chevrolet, Ford, Chrysler, Mercedes-Benz and Volvo (the latter perhaps avoiding all publicity in the wake of recent revelations that additional steel supports were welded into Volvos before performing those amazing roof strength stunts).

All the major Japanese car companies -- Honda, Mazda, Mitsubishi, Nissan and Toyota -- had big displays. So did Acura, BMW, Buick, Cadillac, GMC Truck, Hyundai, Infiniti, Lexus, Lincoln-Mercury, Oldsmobile, Pontiac and Volkswagen. So there were plenty of interesting cars to look at and the absentees weren't really missed.

Ever go to a car show and find that the nice cars -- the ones costing over

\$20,000 or so, were all locked up so you couldn't sit in them? Sometimes with rope barriers around them so you couldn't even touch them, ferhevvinssake? Not so in Sacramento. The only car not open for test-sits (other than the Batmobile) was Acura's exotic NSX. Every other car -- even BMW's rare and expensive 850i coupe (in stunning emerald metallic with black leather!) was left wide open. You could get in, fiddle with the controls, shift the gears and pop the hoods to your heart's content! Try doing that at the San Francisco or Los Angeles shows and you'll probably be hauled off to court and sentenced to drive a Yugo for the rest of your life.

A few standouts at the show:

* The Toyota Tercel, newly restyled in a daring Retro mode, priced at under \$7000. A cutie!

* The Mercury Tracer, sleekly styled, engineered by Mazda, combining performance, economy and sensible size in the \$8000-\$12,000 price range. The wagon is a knockout!

* The Hyundai Coupe, a sporty coupe with a fun name priced well below \$10,000. Try it in Chrome Yellow.

* Buick's new Regal four-door sedan,



Sacramento Auto Show...

Infiniti's Christopher Faville demonstrates the company's flagship Q45 performance luxury sedan. Sorry guys, he's not included in the car's \$40,000 price tag. Photo by Raoul Renaud

perhaps the ultimate current expression of modern aero styling, showing careful attention to quality both inside and out, with prices starting around \$16,000. The Gran Sport model in white with dove gray leather is absolutely gorgeous!

* The Mazda 626 GT -- a conservative-looking sedan with a potent turbocharged engine for those who want to go fast but not look fast. A true sleeper.

Other automotive news

Giant General Motors has recalled

a promotional video used for training sales personnel after protests from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors. Seems the video referred to a competing Japanese pick-up as "that little faggot truck." San Francisco threatened to pull a \$500,000 contract with GM for city vehicles unless GM pulled the video. In a letter of apology, GM Chair Robert Stempel said the remark did not "reflect General Motors policy toward gay and lesbian people." Once again, the power of the purse provides invincible...

Speaking of General Motors, did

anyone besides me notice that GM came out with its new Saturn line of import-fighting small cars on National Coming Out Day? Does this mean the little car is gay? Wonder why they didn't call it Uranus...

Let us hear from you about this column. Send comments, questions about cars and car repairs, and news bits including activities of local auto-related clubs to MGW, Automotive Editor, 1725 L Street, Sac. 95814. ▼

MGW PETS

Identifying feline immunodeficiency virus

by Richard Sweetser, D.V.M.
OF MGW STAFF

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) is a recently identified virus of the cat family, which was discovered at UC Davis in 1987. FIV is a different virus from Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) and Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV).

There is no evidence that FIV can infect people or that HIV can infect

cats. Therefore, it is not possible to catch AIDS from a cat or vice versa. Although HIV and FIV are different viruses, there are many similarities in the behavior of the viruses.

1. Both belong to the same family of viruses (Lentivirus).
2. Both cause the immune system to deteriorate by infecting T lymphocytes.
3. Both are not spread by casual contact, and are difficult to spread.

4. Both have long incubation periods and are relatively slow to cause disease (humans -- 11 years plus; cats -- greater than two years).

The major differences between the viruses appear in how they are spread. HIV is transmitted sexually and via blood product transfer. FIV appears to be spread by the saliva during cats' biting episodes (fights, etc.). The FIV infection occurs most commonly in outdoor, free-roaming, aggressive, territorial male cats. Casual, non-aggressive contact such as sharing of food and water bowls and social grooming practices, do not appear to be adequate to spread the virus.

FIV attacks the immune system so that the cat is not able to fight infections. Opportunistic infections such as bacteria viruses, protozoa and fungi common in the cat's environment, can cause severe illness in their immunosuppressed state.

Since there are many possible diseases that can be involved with FIV, any sick cat should be examined by their Veterinarian. A diagnosis of FIV as well as FeLV is made by a blood test. Positive FIV results should be repeated in two to four weeks to rule out a false positive result. Once infected, the cat remains infected for life.

There is no treatment or preventative vaccine presently available for FIV, but there is much research going on. There is a vaccine available for Feline Leukemia Virus

(FeLV). It is recommended that cats be tested for FeLV and then given a series of vaccinations (two shots two weeks apart).

Both FIV and FeLV are the most serious viruses affecting cats today and much of the Veterinary Medical research in cats are in these areas, so hopefully as time goes on, these diseases will be completely preventable.

Richard Sweetser's Southside Veterinary Clinic is located at 7290 Franklin Blvd., Suite D, Sacramento. ▼

From pets to peerages; what to give this Xmas

by Debra Lee Baldwin
COPELY NEWS SERVICE

You're in luck if your friend owns a pet. There are lots of clever, appealing gifts for pets and their owners.

Alpo Petfoods makes a special holiday stocking stuffed with doggie goodies; it's available in grocery, drug and mass-merchandise stores.

New from Ken-L Ration are Frisbee Flying Dog treats, beef or bacon flavored discs that are designed to soar more than 20 feet.

ConAgra Pet Products has recently introduced "Snoopy Private Col-

lection Cologne," a line of fragrances for pooches (the names include "Fetching," "A Breed Apart" and "Puppy Love").

You can't go wrong with a pet calendar or a book that features the preferred animal. Professional trainers recommend two intriguing books by Desmond Morris: "Catwatching" and "Dogwatching" (Crown).

Especially thoughtful gifts include identification tags, engraved with the pet's name and your address and telephone number, home dental kits (available from the veterinarian or pet store) or a reflector leash and collar to make the animal more visible at night.

If your friend plans to be away for the holidays, offer to pet-sit, or pay for a professional pet sitter. You also might "borrow" Max or Fifi for the afternoon and visit a groomer.

Consider, too, a donation in your friend's name to the local humane society or to an organization such as Canine Companions for Independence or Dogs for the Deaf.

Although you should exercise caution when giving a pet as a gift -- the holidays can be so busy a new member of the family might be neglected -- it's true that watching fish in an aquarium, stroking a puppy or kitten, or enjoying the companionship of a caged bird all are activities that help people relax; studies have related pet ownership with reductions in blood pressure. ▼

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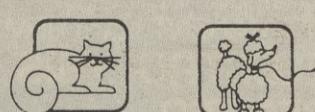
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Tilesetter

by Maria Albin
OF MGW STAFF

Pastor will perform weddings for lesbians/gays

Reverend George Regas of Pasadena's All Saints Episcopal Church has announced his intentions to perform wedding ceremonies for lesbians/gays, in spite of his congregation's objections.

"The core issue for sexual ethics is not whether genital love is within or outside of heterosexual marriage. The pivotal issue is the integrity of the relationship," Rev. Regas announced to his congregation. ▼

Lesbian sentenced for beating lover

A woman who battered her lesbian lover was recently sentenced to three years probation by a Municipal Court judge in Los Angeles. This was the first case in L.A. involving a lesbian couple, in which prosecutors won a conviction after presenting evidence of "battered woman syndrome."

The defendant, Sherry Sperling, 25, was also ordered to enroll in a batterer's treatment program and provide proof of enrollment by November 27. The charge stemmed from an incident in September in which Sperling repeatedly struck her lover, blackening both of her eyes and leaving bruises on her body, during an attack at their home. ▼

Wide-ranging musical project to benefit AIDS charities

One of the most ambitious charity projects in recent memory is underway with the release by Chrysalis Records of "Red, Hot and Blue." The album features interpretations of Cole Porter songs by 22 contemporary artists, including U2, Sinead O'Conner, k.d. lang and the Neville Brothers. Porter, who was gay, was chosen because his music "spoke about love, sex and experimentation" according to Leigh Blake, the project's co-director.

The album will be followed by an ABC-TV special on December 1, and a home video in April. Proceeds will go to various AIDS charities. ▼

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Army must allow gay man to re-enlist

Former sergeant Perry J. Watkins, drafted in 1967 despite his avowed homosexuality, has won the nod from the U.S. Supreme Court to be allowed to re-enlist in the Army.

Watkins had a successful 14-year Army career, and was permitted to re-enlist three times before the Army cited stricter regulations against homosexuality and finally forced him from the service in 1984, when his enlistment contract expired. ▼

Serial killer may stalk gays

Gay newspapers in Indiana and Texas have reported similarities in 11 murders in Indianapolis and four murders in Houston which may be



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the work of serial killers.

In Indianapolis, in the past 10 years at least 11 gay men have been murdered and their bodies dumped in remote areas of Indiana and Ohio. There have been no suspects charged in any of the cases.

Police have said there is no evidence that the killings are related; however, a spokesperson for the Hidalgo County Sheriff's Department did say that the department has verified that three of the victims had a "history" of being involved in homosexual conduct. ▼

Firebomb attack at church

A recent arson attack occurred at the Metropolitan Community Church at 150 Eureka Street in San Francisco. A firebomb was thrown through a window of the church in

the early morning hours, burning several pews and damaging a carpet. The church pastor, Jim Miltulski, described the incident as "very upsetting. It was an ugly and violent experience." So far, there have been no arrests in the incident. ▼

Pete Townsend acknowledges bisexuality

Pete Townsend, guitarist for the Who, has acknowledged his bisexuality in an interview included in a new book, "Rock Lives: Profiles and Interviews."

"I know how it feels to be a woman," Townsend was quoted, "and I won't be classified as just a man." ▼



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San Francisco band DEUCE to play at the Snow White Champagne Ball



The New York Post said ... "virile, passionate, strong-toned, vigorous, intense, technically accomplished" of DEUCE, an all women's band that will be playing at the 17th Annual Snow White Champagne Ball on Saturday evening, December 15. See ticket order form in this issue of MGW.

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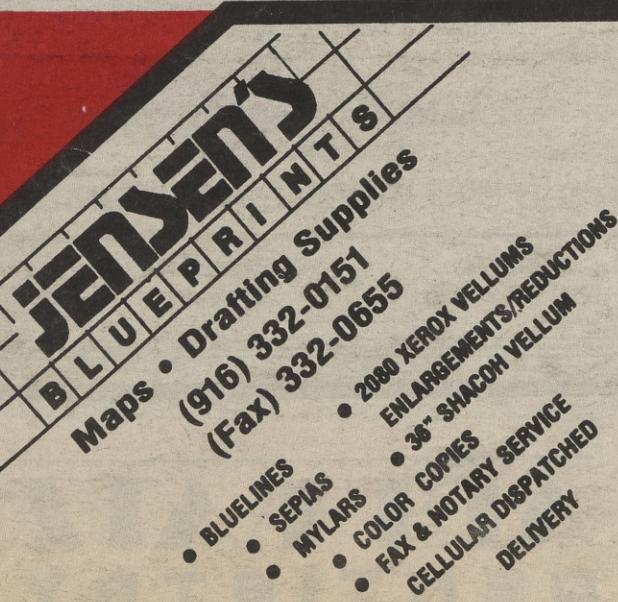
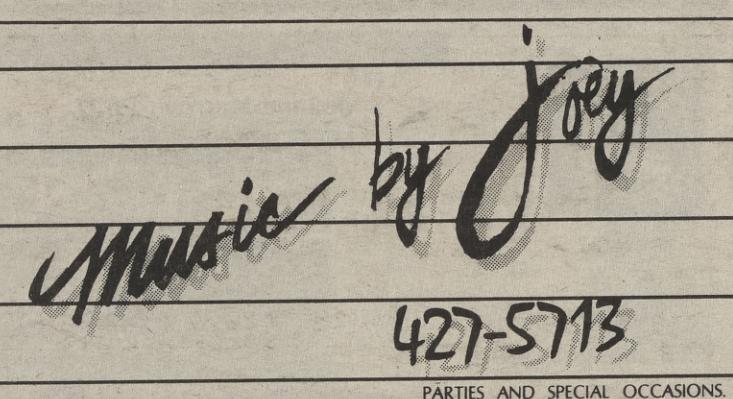
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CALENDAR

December

1 Saturday

- **Community Service of Remembrance on World AIDS Day**, Sacramento Family of the Restoration Church of Jesus Christ, 2331 K St., 7:30pm; 444-8291.
- **No host dinner**, Valley Knights Motorcycle Club, Incredibly Edible, 1401 Alhambra Blvd., 7:30pm; 371-2284.
- **1990 Baroque Ball**, "A Winter's Night Waltz," Crocker Art Museum; 449-5423.
- **Getting the Love You Want**, a couples workshop for gays and lesbians, River City MCC, 3418 Broadway; 648-0128 Dr. Erlandson.
- **Sacramento Symphony Pops**, Newton Wayland, conductor, "Hokey for Hollywood," 8pm, Community Center Theatre, 14th & L sts., 649-0200.
- **Pet photos with Santa**, benefit for Sac SPCA, 6201 Florin-Perkins Rd., 11am-2pm, \$13.

2 Sunday

- **Creating Money and Prosperity**, Church of Enthusiasm and Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, Ste. 11; 456-5685.
- **The Dillards in Concert**, The Party Palace, 2601 Claybank Rd., Fairfield; 415-285-0339.
- **Pet photos with Santa**, see Dec. 1.

3 Monday

- **Sacramento Women's Chorus Rehearsals**, every Monday, 6:30-8:30pm, Trinity Presbyterian Church, 1500 Park Blvd., W. Sac.; 391-4114 or 753-6022.
- **Midtown Business Association Holiday Dinner**, 6pm, \$15-\$17.50. Town House, 1517 21st St.

4 Tuesday

- **Outlook**, lesbian/gay video, 10pm, Cable Channel 63.
- **Nutrition in HIV Care**, Integrated Care Systems, Mercy Medical Plaza, 3941 J St., 6:30-8:30pm, guest speaker: Cade Fields Newman; 453-4946.

5 Wednesday

- **The Lost Continent of Atlantis**, Church of Enthusiasm and Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, Ste. 11, 7pm, reservations required, \$10; 456-5685.
- **Orchestra/Choir**, American River College Theater, 4700 College Oak Dr., 8pm, 484-8433.

6 Thursday

- **Outlook**, lesbian/gay video show, 9pm, Cable Channel 63.
- **Annual Shop and Sherry Show and Sale**, Crocker Art Museum, 10am-8pm; 449-5423.
- **Update on HIV Treatments**, 7-9pm, SAF, 1900 K, 2nd floor; 448-2437.

7 Friday

- **Holiday Affaire**, Sacramento Women's Chorus, Trinity Presbyterian Church, 1500 Park Ave., W. Sac., tickets \$5 at Lioness Books or the door; 429-7155 lv. msg.
- **An Evening with Katherine V. Forrest**, BACW, College of Marin, Kentfield Campus, 7pm; 495-5393.
- **Future of SAF Services**, 6-8pm, SAF, 1900 K, 2nd floor, 448-2437.

8 Saturday

- **PWLTM Holiday Brunch**, 2628 El Camino Ave., Ste. C1, RSVP by Dec. 5; 972-7831.
- **Holiday Affaire**, Sacramento Women's Chorus, St. Paul's Methodist Church, corner of Monte Vista and West, Vacaville, tickets \$5 at Lioness Books or the door; 429-7155 lv. msg.
- **Toast the Holidays and Support the SAF**, guests: Mayor Anne Rudin, Councilmember Heather Fargo; 448-2437.
- **A workshop with Katherine V. Forrest**, BACW, College of Marin, Kentfield Campus, 10am-1pm; 495-5393.
- **East Meets West Holiday Tea Dance**, BACW Marin & BACW East Bay, 4-8pm; 495-5393.
- **Jingle Bell Jam**, Music by Joey; 9pm-2am, Shangri-La, 6339 Mack Rd., \$5 cover charge; 427-5713.
- **Christmaster**, Leland Stanford Mansion, noon-4pm, 8th & N sts., 324-0575.
- **Annual Holiday Party**, Camping Women Trails San Joaquin Valley. For info call 209-897-2852.

9 Sunday

- **San Francisco Opera**, 415-565-4509.
- **Bill of Rights Celebration**, ACLU, 4pm, \$8-\$15; 415-621-2493.
- **Symphonic Band**, "Sing a Song of Joy," American River College Theater, 4700 College Oak Dr., 8pm, 484-8433.
- **Annual Holiday Party**, Camping Women Trails San Joaquin Valley. For info call 209-897-2852.
- **Bed & Breakfast Tour**, Amador County. Benefits Hospice of Amador, tickets \$10. For info send a self-addressed stamped envelope to TOUR, 1407 Jackson Gate Rd., Jackson, 95642 or call 209-223-3650.

10 Monday

- **Have You Lived Before?**, Church of Enthusiasm and Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, Ste. 11, 7pm reservations required, \$10; 456-5685.
- **Psychological Impact of AIDS on Uninfected Gay and Bisexual Men**, 7-9pm, SAF, 1900 K, 2nd floor; 448-2437.
- **Sacramento Symphony Sing-Along Messiah**, Carter Nice, conductor, 7:30pm, Community Center Theatre, 14th & L sts., 649-0200.

11 Tuesday

- **Parents & Friends of Lesbians & Gays Reception**, 7:30pm, St. Marks Methodist Church, 2391 St. Marks Way.

CALENDAR

Choral Holiday Concert, American River College Theatre, 4700 College Oak Dr., 8pm, 484-8433.

12 Wednesday

- **Sexual Energy Workshop**, Church of Enthusiasm and Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, Ste. 11, 7pm reservation required, \$20; 456-5685 or 489-7503.
- **National Organization for Women**, December chapter meeting and holiday party, 7-9pm, 1703 H St., 443-3470.
- **Music Department Concert**, American River College Theatre, 4700 College Oak Dr., noon, 484-8433.

13 Thursday

- **Instrumental Holiday Concert**, American River College Theater, 4700 College Oak Dr., 8pm, 484-8433.

14 Friday

- **A Chanticleer Christmas Concert**, Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament, 1017 17th St.; 920-1121.
- **6th Annual Winter Concert**, Sacramento Men's Chorus with Guests the Golden Gate Men's Chorus, 1st United Methodist Church, 8pm; \$8 advance, \$10 door.
- **How to Release Guilt, Say No and Feel Good About It**, Church of Enthusiasm and Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, Ste. 11, 7pm reservations required, \$10; 456-5685 or 489-7503.
- **Soul Mate Night**, The Church of Enthusiasm and Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, Ste. 11; 7pm, reservations required, \$10; 456-5685 or 489-7503.
- **Old Sacramento Holiday Festival**, thru Dec. 16. For info call 443-7815.

15 Saturday

- **6th Annual Winter Concert**, see Dec. 14.
- **Femertainment**, fundraiser for PAWS, Lioness Books, 2224 J St., 442-4657, 10am-6pm.
- **Free household hazardous waste disposal** City & County of Sacramento, 9am-1pm at 21st & W sts. 368-6160 or 449-5757.
- **Snow White Champagne Ball**, 8pm, Lincoln Plaza Atrium, \$35 advance, \$45 at the door; 441-6397 for more info.

16 Sunday

- **Christmas Faire**, Church of Enthusiasm and Joy, 2755 Cottage Way, Ste. 11, free; 456-5685 or 489-7503.
- **Femertainment**, see Dec. 15.



Art Galleries

thru Dec. — **Dexter Smith**, 544 Downtown Plaza, Sat.-Wed. 12-4pm, 441-5494, 371-1725.

thru Dec. — **Nathaniel Clark**, paintings and etchings. Barbara Lindsey (McDonald), at Keith Yates Audio Video, 2440 Fulton Ave., 485-6700.

thru Dec. 1 — **group show**, mixed media, Lite Rail Gallery, 918 12th St.; reception Nov. 3, 6-9pm.

thru Dec. 2 — **Edward Weston**: *Idols Behind Altars*, Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., 449-5423.

Dec. 4 — **The Andy Lippincott Drawings**; reception for Garry Trudeau and Brian Wilson and Friends of the NAMES Project, The Brauenstein-Quay Gallery, 250 Sutter St.; 415-863-5511.

Dec. 6 — **Opening of God Only Knows**: The Andy Lippincott Drawings and the Arthur Okamura Show, 5:30-7:30pm, The Brauenstein/Quay Gallery, 250 Sutter.

thru Dec. 8 — **Dexter Smith**, Lite Rail Gallery, 4467 Granite Dr., Rocklin, 441-1013; artist's reception Sat. Nov. 17.

thru Dec. 8 — **Treen Totems** by Virginia Appert, reception Sat. Nov. 10 7-9pm, 452-0949.

thru Dec. 9 — **Yokohama**, Prints of the City's Early History, Asian Art Museum, Golden Gate Park, S.F. 415-751-2500.

thru Dec. 22 — **Robert Elze**, recent paintings: Michael Himovitz Gallery, 1020 10th St., 448-8723.

thru Dec. 31 — **Clay Vessels** by James Lavery, The Himovitz Gallery, Pavilions, 550 Pavilions Lane, 925-5917, M-Sat. 10am-6pm, Sun. 12-5pm.

thru Dec. 31 — **the works of Penina Meisels**, Michael Himovitz, Maria Guilhermina, Jeffery Margolin, Himovitz Gallery/Pavilions, 550 Pavilions Lane, M-S 10am-6pm, Sun. 12-5pm, 925-5917.

thru Jan. 5 — **'Women and the Railroad'**, Calif. Railroad Museum, 111 I St., 10am-5pm daily, 324-4724.

thru Jan. 15, 1991 — **Winter Show** by Joe Slater, The Shenandoah Gallery, 12300 J Rd., Plymouth 95669, 10am-5pm; art reception Sun., Nov. 11 1-4pm, 209-245-44.

thru Jan. 30, 1991 — **California Modernism**, Library Gallery, 1020 10th St., 449-5423.

thru Jan. 30, 1991 — **Of Time and the City**: American Modern Art, Crocker Art Museum, 216 O St., 342-5423.

25 Tuesday

MERRY CHRISTMAS!!

31 Monday

- **Dinner Dance**, BACW, Miyako Hotel in S.F. Japantown; 495-5393.
- **New Year's Eve Gala Extravaganza**, Delta King; 444-KING.
- **New Year's Eve Buffet**, 12:30pm, \$5-\$10; Joseph's Town & Country, 2062 Auburn Blvd., 649-9248.

San Francisco said that the 15th

CALENDAR

Theater

Available for tour bookings in No. Calif. thru 1991 — **Get Real**, a play about kids, choices & well-being; target audience grades 4-6; (415) 861-4914 (presented by the New Conservatory Children's Theatre Co. of SF and the Federal Centers for Disease Control).

Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter St., S.F.; (415) 956-4781.

thru Dec. 2 — **Requiem for a Heavyweight**, 5323 Engle Rd., Carmichael, 489-7529.

thru Dec. 8 — **East of the Sun & West of the Moon**, by Mary Carroll, 7:30pm, California Original Theatre Company, 35th & Broadway; 456-2861.

thru Dec. 8 — CSUS Theatre Arts Dept., The Changeling, University Theatre CSUS, 278-6604.

thru Dec. 9 — **Juan Darien**, Marines Memorial Theatre, 609 Sutter St., S.F., 8pm.

thru Dec. 9 — **Shadow of a Man**, Eureka Theatre Co., 2730 16th St. at Harrison, S.F.; W-Sat 8pm, Sun 2pm; (415) 558-9898.

thru Dec. 15 — **Picture Me**, Theatre Rhinoceros, 2926 16th St., S.F.; Wed-Sun 8pm; (415) 861-5079.

thru Dec. 22 — **Midsummer Nights Dream**, 24th St. Theatre, Sierra II,